



Daily Report

East Asia

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4 November 1993

Daily Report

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FBIS-EAS-93-212

CONTENTS

4 November 1993

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

| | |
|--|---|
| Kumano Welcomes NAFTA Without Super 301 [KYODO] | 1 |
| EC, GATT Reject Bid for Rice Issue Support [Tokyo TV] | 1 |
| Lower Tariffs on Farm Products Planned [KYODO] | 1 |
| Weather Damage to Farm Crops Hits Record High [KYODO] | 1 |
| Butrus-Ghali Supports Ogata for UNHCR [KYODO] | 2 |
| Creation of Copyrights Protection Body Urged [KYODO] | 2 |
| El Salvador's Cristiani Wants Election Observers [KYODO] | 2 |
| Government To Disburse Aid [KYODO] | 3 |
| Hosokawa: Time To End Political Reform Debate [KYODO] | 3 |
| SDPJ's Kubo Hospitalized for Ulcer 4 Nov [KYODO] | 3 |
| Former Prime Minister Tanaka Hospitalized [KYODO] | 4 |
| Sources: Defense Spending Growth Faces 1994 Cut [KYODO] | 4 |
| FTC Probes Importers Over Profit Distribution [KYODO] | 4 |
| Small Businesses Urge Governmental Assistance [KYODO] | 4 |
| Automobile Group Urges Early Income Tax Cut [KYODO] | 4 |
| Creation of Cabinet Group on Deregulation Urged [KYODO] | 5 |
| Electricity Consumption Said Up 0.2 Percent [KYODO] | 5 |

North Korea

| | |
|--|----|
| Government Reacts to 1 Nov UN Resolution | 5 |
| Foreign Ministry Statement [Pyongyang Radio] | 5 |
| Delegation Releases Statement [KCNA] | 6 |
| U.S.-South Korean 'Air War Exercise' Noted [KCNA] | 7 |
| KCNA Cites Vice Defense Minister's Remarks | 7 |
| Daily Criticizes South's New Defense Budget [KCNA] | 7 |
| Japan-U.S. Missile System Said To Pose Threat [KCNA] | 8 |
| Daily Warns Against Japanese 'Militarism' [KCNA] | 8 |
| Study Habits of Anti-Japanese Rebels Lauded [KCNA] | 9 |
| Foreign Groups Condemn 1 Oct IAEA Resolution [KCNA] | 9 |
| Government Establishes Relations With Macedonia [KCNA] | 9 |
| Yugoslav Ambassador Departs After Recall [Pyongyang Radio] | 10 |
| Zimbabwe Paper Denounces Anti-Socialist Campaign [KCNA] | 10 |
| New Land Lease Law Permits Foreign Investment [KCNA] | 10 |
| Kim Il-song's Works Studied, Read Abroad [KCNA] | 10 |
| Industries Reported To Achieve Goals Early [KCNA] | 10 |

South Korea

| | |
|--|----|
| Reportage on U.S. Defense Secretary's Visit | 11 |
| Decision on Team Spirit Postponed [YONHAP] | 11 |
| Seoul Radio on SCM Talks Results | 11 |
| President Awards Medal to Aspin [YONHAP] | 11 |
| Aspin-Kim Yong-sam Meeting Noted [YONHAP] | 12 |
| Aspin Remarks at Briefing Cited [YONHAP] | 12 |
| Joint Communique Issued [YONHAP] | 13 |
| Seoul Radio Reports on Communique | 14 |
| Results of U.S.-ROK Working-Level Meeting Noted [YONHAP] | 14 |

| | | |
|---|--------------------------|----|
| Ackerman Cited on Meeting With Kim Il-Song | [YONHAP] | 15 |
| ROK, U.S. Customs Officials Agree on Action | [THE KOREA TIMES 4 Nov] | 15 |
| Finance Official Meets With U.S. Counterpart | [THE KOREA TIMES 4 Nov] | 15 |
| New U.S. Ambassador Praised as 'Right Man' | [THE KOREA HERALD 4 Nov] | 16 |
| Government Deplores North's Canceling Contact | [Seoul Radio] | 16 |
| Government Urges North To Reschedule Dialogue | [YONHAP] | 16 |
| DPRK Said 'Desperately Seeking' Countermeasures | [YONHAP] | 17 |
| North Korean Trade Delegation Visits Germany | [THE KOREA HERALD 4 Nov] | 17 |
| DPRK Businessman Complains of Shortages | [CHOSON ILBO 3 Nov] | 17 |
| Official in Geneva To Explain GATT Position | [THE KOREA HERALD 4 Nov] | 18 |
| Government May Withdraw Troops in Somalia Early | [HANGYORE SINMUN 3 Nov] | 18 |
| Russia May Use Naval Force To Protect Fishing | [YONHAP] | 19 |
| Russia Reportedly To Offer Crude Oil Supply | [YONHAP] | 19 |
| Deng Xiaoping's Eldest Son Arrives in Seoul | [YONHAP] | 20 |
| Government Reduces DSC Budget by 14.4 Percent | [CHUNGANG ILBO 3 Nov] | 20 |
| Businessman Violates Foreign Exchange Law | [YONHAP] | 20 |
| Victims of 1979 Coup Demand Compensation | [YONHAP] | 20 |

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

| | | |
|--|------------------------------|----|
| Mahathir Says West Views Islam as Threat | [BERNAMA] | 21 |
| Mahathir on Nonattendance at APEC Meeting | [Kuala Lumpur International] | 21 |
| Finance Minister Assumes UMNO Office | [Kuala Lumpur International] | 21 |
| Minister Calls Foreign Report 'Inaccurate' | [NEW STRAITS TIME 26 Oct] | 21 |
| BERNAMA Begins Operations in Hanoi | [NEW STRAITS TIMES 2 Nov] | 22 |

Cambodia

| | | |
|---|--------------------|----|
| Sihanouk Sends Birthday Message 31 Oct | [Phnom Penh Radio] | 22 |
| Lao Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon Arrives | [Phnom Penh Radio] | 25 |
| Editorial Welcomes Visit | [Phnom Penh Radio] | 25 |
| Chea Sim Receives Australian Senators | [APK] | 26 |
| Heng Samrin Appointed King's 'High Adviser' | [Phnom Penh Radio] | 26 |
| Commentary on Proposed Talks With Khmer Rouge | [Phnom Penh Radio] | 26 |
| NADK Spokesman Denies Shelling Phnom Penh | [Radio VGNUFC] | 27 |

Indonesia

| | | |
|--|---------------------------|----|
| Suharto, Dutch Minister Discuss Investment | [THE JAKARTA POST 25 Oct] | 27 |
| Government To Open Consulate in South Africa | [ANTARA] | 28 |
| Minister Announces New Deregulation Package | [THE JAKARTA POST 25 Oct] | 28 |

Laos

| | | |
|--|-------------------|----|
| Further Reportage on SRV President's Visit | | 29 |
| Hanoi Radio on Meeting Khamtai | | 29 |
| Hanoi Radio on Official Meetings | | 30 |
| Hanoi Radio Reports on Activities | | 30 |
| Hanoi Radio Notes Courtesy Calls | | 30 |
| Joint Statement Issued 3 Nov | [Vientiane Radio] | 31 |
| VNA Summarizes Joint Statement | | 32 |
| Concludes Visit, Departs 3 Nov | [Vientiane Radio] | 33 |
| Hanoi Radio on End of Visit | | 33 |
| Reportage on SRV Army Delegation's Visit | [VNA] | 33 |

Philippines

| | |
|---|----|
| Government, MNLF Agree To Discuss Cease-Fire [Quezon City TV] | 34 |
| Panel To View Constitution Changes [PNA] | 34 |
| Patrol Procedures Established With Indonesia [MANILA BULLETIN 29 Oct] | 34 |
| Roundup of Rebel Activities for 23-29 Oct [MANILA STANDARD 28 Oct] | 34 |

Thailand

| | |
|---|----|
| Deputy Labor Minister To Visit Libya [THE NATION 4 Nov] | 35 |
| Editorial Criticizes Policy With Libya, U.S. [MATICHON 4 Nov] | 35 |
| Cabinet Approves Relations With South Africa [BANGKOK POST 3 Nov] | 35 |
| Ministry Issues Algeria Travel Advisory [Bangkok International] | 36 |
| Pact Signed With Australia To Combat AIDS [THE NATION 4 Nov] | 36 |
| Navy To Buy Six U.S. Seahawk Helicopters [THE NATION 3 Nov] | 36 |
| Official Says APEC Poses Threat to AFTA [THE NATION 3 Nov] | 37 |
| Government Organizes Aid Project for Burma [BANGKOK POST 4 Nov] | 38 |
| Launch of Thaicom-1 Rescheduled for 17 Dec [BANGKOK POST 3 Nov] | 38 |

Vietnam

| | |
|--|----|
| Minister on Results of President's Laos Visit [VNA] | 38 |
| Tourism Cooperation Agreement Signed With Laos [VNA] | 39 |
| Vo Van Kiet Receives New Burmese Ambassador [Hanoi Radio] | 39 |
| Receives New Malaysian Ambassador [VNA] | 39 |
| Deputy Prime Minister Speaks at UNESCO Forum [Hanoi International] | 39 |
| Returns From Arab Gulf, France [Hanoi Radio] | 39 |
| Assembly Delegation Visits Finland, Sweden [Hanoi TV] | 40 |
| South Korean Investment Delegation Visits [VNA] | 41 |
| Swedish Parliamentary Delegation Visits [VNA] | 41 |
| Province Acts Against Illegal Japan Emigration [Hanoi Radio] | 41 |
| 'Secret Trial' for Dissident Monks in Hue [AFP] | 41 |
| Do Muoi Attends Nguyen Thai Ninh Memorial [Hanoi Radio] | 42 |
| Le Phuoc Tho Attends Women's Union Seminar [Hanoi TV] | 42 |
| Key Cadres Discuss Party Draft Political Report [Hanoi Radio] | 42 |
| Ideological Bloc Prepares for Party Conference [Hanoi Radio] | 43 |
| Vietnam Cooperatives Alliance Holds Congress [Hanoi Radio] | 43 |
| New Youth Committee Meets Media Agencies [Hanoi Radio] | 43 |
| Cooperation Memorandum To Protect Nature Signed [VNA] | 43 |

Japan

Kumano Welcomes NAFTA Without Super 301

OW0411091393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0843 GMT
4 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—Japan's vice trade minister Thursday [4 November] welcomed the U.S. Government's deletion of a "Super 301" trade enforcement clause from the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

"It is very welcome. Until now, we expressed concern about a revival of Super 301," said Hideaki Kumano, vice international trade and industry minister, at a press conference.

On Wednesday, U.S. President Bill Clinton formally sent legislation on NAFTA to Congress, dropping the "Super 301" provision for compulsory sanctions against nations that persist with unfair trade practices.

Asked about reports that the European Community (EC) has made a decision to temporarily impose antidumping duties on Japanese-made television cameras for broadcasting systems, Kumano said he will carefully watch developments.

"Our expressed concern to the EC resulted in the exclusion of TV cameras for industrial use (from the preliminary taxation). We expect the EC to make a right judgment in line with the antidumping treaty," he said.

EC, GATT Reject Bid for Rice Issue Support

OW0411125093 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1023 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Announcer-read introduction, followed NHK reporter Takafumi Wakikawa's video report from Geneva on 4 November—from "News 7" program]

[Text] No progress has been made in meetings between Japan, the EC and GATT on the proposed tariffication of imported farm products. Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF) Minister Eijiro Hata is currently in Europe having talks with EC and GATT officials. During a series of meetings, though, he has failed to win European understanding for Japan's opposition to the tariffication proposal, which would end the Japanese ban on rice imports. The Uruguay Round of negotiations will next enter the final stage, and Japan is very likely to be forced to accept rice tariffication.

[Begin Wakikawa recording] MAFF Minister Hata met GATT Director General Peter Sutherland and EC Agriculture Commissioner Rene Steichen on 3 and 4 November to underline Japan's opposition to tariffication without exception and to the liberalization of the Japanese rice market. He said his European tour is the last chance to put across Japan's message.

However, both the EC and GATT rejected Japanese plea for rice to be exempt from tariffication. Mr. Sutherland said most member nations of GATT supported the tariffication proposal, and that Japan's request on the rice issue could complicate negotiations in the Uruguay Round.

After the series of meetings, Mr. Hata told reporters that Japan's opposition to rice tariffication remained unchanged. But he hinted that Japan may revise its stand on the rice issue in some way, saying it might have to consider new measures depending on development of future discussions. Regardless of the government's official opposition to rice liberalization at any price, Japan may have to make concessions at the final stage of the trade negotiations.

As Japanese rice farmers strongly oppose removal of the rice import ban, the government has to deal with the issue very carefully, taking into account the national consensus. [end recording]

Lower Tariffs on Farm Products Planned

OW0411000393 Tokyo KYODO in English 2342 GMT
3 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—Japan plans to lower tariffs on 1,300 farm products by an average 36 percent virtually in line with proposals by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in the Uruguay Round trade talks, the YOMIURI SHIMBUN reported Thursday [4 November].

But as for the controversial issue of whether to lift a ban on rice imports, no specific reference will be made in the proposal, the nation's largest-circulation newspaper said in a dispatch from Geneva, quoting Japanese Government sources.

The government apparently will seek a compromise on the rice issue with other GATT member countries including the United States prior to the December 15 deadline for concluding the global trade talks, the daily said.

GATT members have to submit their market-opening plans to the world trade body by November 15. But talks over industrial products including nonferrous metal, textiles and leather goods have been lagging, and submission of the plans may also be further delayed, the daily said.

Weather Damage to Farm Crops Hits Record High

OW0411112393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1036 GMT
4 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—Damage caused to farm crops by bad weather this summer hit a record of 1,212.2 billion yen, the Agriculture Ministry reported Thursday [4 November].

The Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Ministry said the figure topped the previous record of about 730 billion yen recorded in 1980. The ministry said damage caused by an unusually cool summer was estimated at 1,007 billion yen while that caused by a long spell of heavy rain from late May to mid-August amounted to about 155.9 billion yen.

Damage caused by Typhoon No. 13 which struck in early September was estimated at 49.3 billion yen, the ministry said.

The ministry said farming fields affected by the cool summer totaled 2,618,000 hectares.

Damage was particularly heavy in the Tohoku region, amounting to 507.1 billion yen, accounting for about 50 percent of the total, the ministry said.

Damage in Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost main island, amounted to 237.5 billion yen and that in the Kanto and Hokuriku regions stood at 160.1 billion yen and 76.9 billion yen, respectively, the ministry said. The devastating downpours affected 964,900 hectares of farm fields in Kyushu, Shikoku and Chugoku areas in southwestern Japan, where damage to rice was estimated at 87.7 billion yen.

Typhoon No. 13 affected 453,900 hectares of land, causing damage worth 28 billion yen to rice, 8.9 billion yen to vegetables and 6.5 billion yen to fruits.

Butrus-Ghali Supports Ogata for UNHCR

OW0411043093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0414 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] New York, Nov. 4 KYODO—Sadako Ogata is set to continue as the U.N. high commissioner for refugees (UNHCR), after gaining the backing of U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali on Wednesday [3 November]. The U.N. General Assembly is expected to approve her reappointment when it meets on Thursday.

The term of office is normally five years, though Ogata has currently served only three, since she assumed her post two years into the term of her predecessor who resigned. The UNHCR has responsibility for organizing accommodation for, and arranging the eventual repatriation of, refugees who have fled the scenes of regional conflict.

Ogata, 66, speaking at a news conference in New York, said that in her three years of office the number of refugees has risen from 15 million to 19 million, and emergency aid to governments and relief organizations therefore continues to be necessary.

Creation of Copyrights Protection Body Urged

OW0411093193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0855 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—A subcommittee of an advisory panel of the Cultural Affairs Agency proposed

Thursday [4 November] to establish a structure to protect copyright holders in a number of information fields. The proposed structure would create a data base of copyright holders in various fields such as photography, music and design, so that users would quickly know who holds the copyright.

The multimedia subcommittee of the agency's copyright council made the proposal in a report in response to the growing access to information by computer hackers.

The definition of "multimedia" is not clear but is characterized by information on software combining visuals, sound, and written language that can be readily accessed by computer. The management of copyright by manufacturers who use a variety of types of information to produce an item has become a problem, but there are cases in which the location of the copyright is not known.

Some composers have expressed concern about the danger of people accessing their work since they do not know the extent of its circulation through the computer network and fear that the contents may be changed.

While the proposed organization would create a data base of copyright holders, there are some information fields in which the holder of the copyright cannot be grasped, so a consolidation of information from each of the fields first is necessary.

The report requests that when multimedia manufacturers sell their software, they explain to the copyright holders the extent to which the software will be used.

Another subcommittee of the council, also meeting Thursday, indicated in another report that the copyright of a musical composition created by composition software but borrowing another composer's idea which is reflected in the music will be given to the original composer and not to the operator of the computer.

El Salvador's Cristiani Wants Election Observers

OW041115193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1104 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—El Salvador's President Alfredo Cristiani Burkard asked Japan's Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Thursday [4 November] to send Japanese observers to monitor his country's presidential election slated for March 20, 1994, Foreign Ministry officials said. During a 20-minute meeting with Hosokawa, Cristiani noted the need to conduct a fair and reliable election under the auspices of the United Nations, the officials said.

Hosokawa told Cristiani that Japan will study possible roles in ensuring a democratic and fair election in El Salvador, and whether it can send personnel to the UN monitoring team, they said. Officials said the UN is expected to soon ask Japan for election monitors.

Also in the meeting, Hosokawa pledged up to some 10.3 billion yen in loans to El Salvador to support its efforts

toward democratization and economic reconstruction, the officials said. The money will be spent on rebuilding bridges and repairing roads destroyed during the nation's civil war, they said.

Japan has been supporting El Salvador's efforts to achieve democratization and economic reconstruction since the 1992 peace agreement reached between the U.S.-backed government and leftist guerrillas, the officials said.

Last year, Tokyo extended some 8.8 billion yen in loans to support El Salvador's plan to increase its electricity generating capacity and another 1.2 billion yen for the completion of sewage and waterworks projects in small- and medium-sized cities. Cristiani thanked Japan for its assistance in important projects, the officials said.

Asked what other areas El Salvador requires assistance, Cristiani cited education and health and sanitation, they said. The president called for Japanese aid for economic reconstruction, they said.

Cristiani is currently in Tokyo for a four-day visit to Japan through Friday.

Government To Disburse Aid

*OW0411032893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0255 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—Japan will disburse 200,000 dollars to support El Salvador's presidential election slated in March next year, Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata said Thursday [4 November].

Hata told El Salvador's Foreign Minister Mirna Lievano [title as received] in a 20-minute meeting that Japan will provide the aid for the election from the 2.5 million dollars it disbursed to the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) for 1993, Foreign Ministry officials said. El Salvador's presidential election is slated March 20, 1994.

Hata also told Lievano the Japanese Government will continue providing yen loans to El Salvador for infrastructure projects. Japan will also send economics experts from the Japan International Cooperation Agency to El Salvador to support its efforts toward democratization and a market-oriented economy, he said.

Lievano, who is accompanying El Salvador's President Alfredo Cristiani on a four-day visit to Japan, thanked Japan for its assistance, the officials said.

Hosokawa: Time To End Political Reform Debate

*OW0411023393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0206 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa hinted Thursday [4 November] his coalition government may accept a compromise plan for political reform aimed at fighting corruption and regaining the public's trust in Japanese politics. He

dropped the hint during an appearance before the House of Representatives Committee on Political Reform.

"The time has come to put an end (to the political reform debate) even if it is not 100 percent perfect," Hosokawa said, adding his government would honor changes in political reform programs through talks with the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

On Tuesday, parties of the ruling coalition agreed to hold talks with the LDP on an amendment to government-proposed political reform bills aimed at changing the House of Representatives electoral system.

Representatives of the seven coalition partners agreed to offer five compromises, including revision of the number of seats to be allotted to single-seat constituencies and of those to be decided by proportional representation, officials said.

The government bills call for allocation of 250 seats to single-seat districts and the same number to proportional representation, while the LDP bills propose 300 constituency seats and 171 decided by proportional representation. Under present laws, each of the nation's 129 constituencies has two to six seats.

The current extraordinary Diet session is deliberating bills that center on renovation of the lower house election system and the imposition of tighter controls on political fund-raising activities, both areas considered to be hotbeds of corruption. The session is due to end December 15.

Prime Minister Hosokawa has said he will resign if he fails to carry out political reforms by the end of this year.

SDPJ's Kubo Hospitalized for Ulcer 4 Nov

*OW0411113893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1039 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—Wataru Kubo, secretary general of the Social Democratic Party [of Japan] (SDP) [SDPJ], was hospitalized Thursday [4 November] for the sudden aggravation of his duodenal ulcer, a party spokesman said.

Kazuo Watanabe, director of the SDPJ's general affairs bureau, told a news conference that Kubo had passed blood Thursday morning. Detailed medical checkups found that the flux resulted from the aggravation of his chronic duodenal ulcer. But since the discharge had stopped, doctors felt surgery was not necessary, Watanabe said.

Kubo has represented the SDPJ, the largest member of the seven-party ruling coalition, at regular policy-making meetings of top representatives of the coalition parties.

The SDPJ does not plan to appoint an acting secretary general in lieu of Kubo for the time being, the spokesman said. Kubo is expected to leave hospital next week, he said.

SDPJ Vice Chairman Shun Oide will represent the SDPJ at coalition policy-making meetings until Kubo recovers, he said.

Former Prime Minister Tanaka Hospitalized

*OW0411163893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1500 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—Former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka has been admitted to Keio University Hospital in Tokyo, police sources said Thursday. The nature of Tanaka's illness and his condition are not known.

Tanaka once exerted enormous political clout as head of the Liberal Democratic Party's largest faction and as party kingmaker, helping to power at least three men—Masayoshi Ohira, Zenko Suzuki and Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Soon after becoming prime minister, Tanaka visited China and reestablished diplomatic ties in 1976. He lost his political influence after collapsing in February 1985 from a stroke. Both former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and retired political power broker Shin Kanemaru belonged to Tanaka's faction.

Tanaka's only daughter Makiko was elected to the House of Representatives in the July 18 general election from his native Niigata Prefecture.

Sources: Defense Spending Growth Faces 1994 Cut

*OW0411103893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1011 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—The Finance Ministry plans to keep the growth of defense spending at around 1 percent for fiscal 1994, the slowest growth on record, ministry sources said Thursday [4 November]. The targeted pace of growth is less than the 1.95 percent growth requested by the Defense Agency for the next fiscal year that begins on April 1, 1994.

The Defense Agency is calling for 4.73 trillion yen in defense outlays for fiscal 1994, meaning that some 44 billion yen must be cut off to keep the growth of defense spending at around 1 percent.

In trimming defense outlays, the ministry is considering cuts in hitherto untouched spending categories in addition to those for areas near bases and defense force training and maintenance, the ministry sources said.

The pace of defense spending growth is set at 2 percent under the fiscal 1993 budget, the smallest increase since fiscal 1960, reflecting the end of the Cold War era and shrinking tax revenues. In the last two decades, defense spending grew by an average 6 percent every year.

FTC Probes Importers Over Profit Distribution

*OW0411061893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0544 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—The head of the Fair Trade Commission (FTC) said Thursday [4 November] the FTC is stepping up its investigation of importers and distributors who fail to pass on windfall profits from the yen's appreciation to consumers.

Masami Kogayu told a lecture meeting in Tokyo that the investigation is focused on cartels and other activities that may impede "parallel imports" by companies other than official Japanese agents of foreign companies. He also said the FTC intends to reduce the number of cartels that are exempt from the Antimonopoly Law, noting the number had decreased to 71 as of the end of October from a peak of more than 1,000.

Small Businesses Urge Governmental Assistance

*OW0411040193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0333 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[Text] Matsue, Nov. 4 KYODO—Representatives of Japan's smaller industries met Thursday [4 November] in this western Japan city to call for increased governmental aid to help tide them over the prolonged economic slump.

About 5,000 people attended the conference, sponsored by the National Federation of Small Business Associations.

Chuzo Tanaka, chairman of the association, told the meeting the government should increase its subsidies to smaller businesses under its fiscal 1994 budget and that government-backed financial institutions should be ready to provide more loans to such businesses at low interest rates.

Automobile Group Urges Early Income Tax Cut

*OW0411040393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0329 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—Automakers urged the government Thursday [4 November] to quickly implement income tax cuts to stimulate consumer demand for motor vehicles, trade officials said. The Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association made the request during a meeting with International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai, the officials said.

Yutaka Kume, association head, also asked Kumagai to try to keep the dollar-yen rate at an appropriate level and cut the current 4.5 percent consumption tax for passenger cars to 3 percent next year as scheduled, they said. "Sales of motor vehicles this fiscal year are likely to continue decreasing from the previous year's level, as they did in fiscal 1991 and 1992," Kume was quoted as saying.

Kumagai reportedly replied, "We have to implement full-scale economic measures from a middle- and long-term point of view, in addition to the emergency pump-priming package announced September 16."

Turning to the Japan-U.S. trade framework talks on automobile parts, association executives expressed strong concern over the possible establishment of numerical targets, which the U.S. side is apparently seeking.

Trade officials said they responded that any controls involving numerical targets, being contrary to the government's policy promoting deregulation, were unacceptable, especially for private sector industries such as automobile manufacturing.

Creation of Cabinet Group on Deregulation Urged
OW0411061993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0519 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—A task force should be set up in the cabinet to work out an action program by the end of fiscal 1994 to slash government regulations in five years, a private advisory panel to Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa decided Thursday [4 November]. The 15-member advisory group for economic restructuring will include the recommendation in an interim report to be finalized at its meeting next Monday, said Takeshi Fujii, chief of the Cabinet Councillors' Office on Internal Affairs.

The panel, headed by Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), will submit a final report to the premier by the end of the year with a set of recommendations on how best to ease government regulations. The report will propose that economic regulations be in principle abolished, while social regulations for safety, health and environmental reasons be whittled down to the minimum, Fujii said.

The draft interim report also calls for the setting up of a powerful independent body to monitor and promote the proposed deregulation measures.

Hosokawa reportedly believes easing of government regulations is the first step in shifting the country's economic and social structure to one favorable to consumers.

The council, asked to compile by the end of the year a paper similar to the 1986 Maekawa Report, is examining ways to make the economy more oriented toward growth led by domestic demand in response to increasing criticism of Japan over its huge current account surplus.

The Maekawa Report, drawn up by a panel led by a former Bank of Japan governor, the late Haruo Maekawa, called for changing the nation's export-oriented economy to one led by domestic demand. Most of the report's proposals were not realized, but the trade surplus shrank because domestic demand grew during the "bubble economy" marked by skyrocketing land and stock prices.

Electricity Consumption Said Up 0.2 Percent

OW0411092393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0807 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 4 KYODO—Reflecting sluggish industrial activity, Japan's electricity consumption in the first half of fiscal 1993 grew a modest 0.2 percent over a year before to 400.3 billion kilowatt-hours, the government announced Thursday [4 November]. The announcement by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said household consumption increased only 1.7 percent to 178.3 billion kilowatt-hours due largely to a cool summer.

Industrial consumption declined 0.9 percent to 222 billion kilowatt-hours, reflecting sluggish industrial activity resulting from the flagging economy, the ministry said.

In September, the last month of the half-year period which began on April 1, overall consumption dropped 1.9 percent to 70.4 billion kilowatt-hours, the ministry said. It said demand for industrial use accounted for 38.6 billion kilowatt-hours, down 2.4 percent, while that for household use decreased 1.4 percent to 31.8 billion kilowatt-hours.

North Korea

Government Reacts to 1 Nov UN Resolution

Foreign Ministry Statement

SK0411115993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1213 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] In connection with the fact that a resolution on the annual activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], which also contains references to the nuclear inspections of our country, was adopted at the 48th UN General Assembly session on 1 November, a DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman released a press statement [tamhwa] condemning this today.

Press statement by the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman:

A resolution on the IAEA's annual activities was adopted at the 48th UN General Assembly session on 1 November. This resolution contains, as well, references to the nuclear inspections of our country.

The references to our issue were unreasonably contained in a comprehensive [pogwalchok] resolution that sums up the IAEA's annual activities. We cannot but consider this to be the byproduct of the clumsy [yuchihan] anti-Republic maneuvers by some elements who played a leading role in fabricating this resolution.

The issue of including our issue in the draft resolution to be presented to the UN General Assembly was discussed at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the IAEA

Board of Governors. However, no agreement was reached due to differences in views.

This was a just strike against some members of the IAEA Secretariat whose baseness has been brought into broad daylight by the forgery case of the UN secretary general's letter, which is unparalleled in the annals of history. Thereupon, some Western countries, being in an awkward position, made Australia stand as the chairman country of the board of governors and draw up a draft of the resolution which finds fault with us, and then submitted the resolution before the UN General Assembly.

Our issue was being included in the recent resolution as a result of the base machinations of the impure forces who attempted to justify their unreasonable act, enforcing unjust inspections on us under the cloak of the so-called opinion of the international community.

Such a resolution, which is nothing but a bastard of political conspiracy, can never be the opinion of the international community. We can in no way accept this [urinun irongosul chuhodo injonghaji anul kosida].

Substantial discussions have recently been going on between the DPRK and the United States to resolve the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula, and prospects are seen for its resolution. At such a time, some Western countries and their followers played the game of adopting a resolution. This is no coincidence. This shows that they are truly trying to fulfill their unchanging goal of doing harm to our Republic, even though they say publicly that they want the resolution of the nuclear issue. In particular, right after the resolution was adopted, a person in military authority in South Korea referred to a military countermeasure [kunsajok taegung] against us. This more clearly discloses the essence of their insidious goal.

If they, by fabricating such a valueless resolution, try to make ill use of it in stifling [apsal] and doing harm to our Republic, we will, as a matter of course, resolutely take a countermeasure [tanhohui taechohae nagal kossida] against it.

It is very clear that insidious forces' pressure and blackmailing were all along behind the adoption of the resolution.

They are making it their undertaking to carry matters very high-handedly [kuktoui chonhoengul ilsamgo itchim] even in the United Nations. This is a futile effort.

In a vote on the resolution's clauses relating to our issue, no fewer than 80 countries opposed them, abstained, or absented themselves, thus running counter to the intention of those countries which fabricated the resolution and their followers. This more clearly proves the justness of our principled position.

No pressure will work on us. We will continuously maintain the principled position that the nuclear issue must be resolved only through dialogue and negotiations.

Delegation Releases Statement

SK0411113593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1122
GMT 4 Nov 93

["Statement of DPRK Delegation"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 4 (KCNA)—The DPRK delegation made public a statement on the adoption of an unreasonable "resolution" concerning the nuclear problem at the UN General Assembly session on November 1.

It is an infringement upon the sovereignty of the DPRK and a part of the sinister political offensive to put pressure upon us to discuss the "question of nuclear inspection" of the DPRK and adopt a resolution, says the statement, and continues:

Putting pressure on us at a time when the talks for a solution of the nuclear problem are going on between the DPRK and the United States cannot be construed otherwise than a deliberate act to foil the efforts for negotiation.

The adoption of the "resolution" was also aimed at covering up the application of double-standard by some officials of the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency and their unjustifiable acts under the name of the United Nations.

As some Western countries pressed unreasonable demand to us by abusing the name of the United Nations, it left another stain on its name in the Korean question.

The United Nations must pay due attention to the fact that it, instead of liquidating the products of the Cold War on the Korean peninsula, has infringed upon the sovereignty of one of its member nations and laid grave obstacles to the efforts for negotiation against the demand of the times.

The course of the adoption of the "resolution" showed that the Western countries' call for "termination of the Cold War" and "era of dialogue and negotiation" was nothing but an empty talk.

And it has become clear that for their interests, they even politicize scientific and technical institutions, violate the basic principle of the UN charter on respect for sovereignty and apply a double standard ignoring international law and usage.

Facts show more clearly that the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula can be solved only through the DPRK-U.S. talks.

The United States acceded to talks with the DPRK because it admitted the partiality and limitation of the IAEA and recognised that the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula could be solved only through talks between the DPRK and itself, the direct parties concerned.

The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea hopes that the members of the international community will refrain from acts obstructive to the progress of the DPRK-U.S. talks as required by the times.

We demand that, if the Western countries truly want the solution of the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula through negotiation, they should admit that the adoption of the "resolution" this time is an act obstructive to the efforts for negotiation and refrain from violating the UN.

The South Korean authorities, in particular, must apologize for their dastardly act of becoming a co-sponsor of the "resolution" against fellow countrymen, while having working-level contacts for the exchange of special envoys, and must refrain from acts of hindering the progress of the DPRK-U.S. talks and respond at an early date to our proposal for the exchange of special envoys in the spirit of national independence, if they are interested in the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and the implementation of the North-South agreement.

The DPRK delegation makes it clear once again that it resolutely opposes the "resolution" adopted at the 48th UN General Assembly with regard to the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula.

U.S.-South Korean 'Air War Exercise' Noted

SK0411055793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0427
GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 4 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets staged a provocative air war exercise in the skies above Yongwol, Yoju, Umsong and Kunsan of South Korea on November 1 and 2, according to military sources.

Involved there were dozens of Japan- and Pacific-based U.S. fighter-bombers, assault planes, pursuit-assault planes and tanker planes, and fighter-bombers, assault planes and observation planes belonging to the U.S. Air Force present in South Korea and the puppet airforce, over 500 in all.

This was a war gamble aimed at examining the feasibility of joint air command system of flying corps based overseas and of the U.S. Air Force present in South Korea and the puppet airforce and the capability of joint aerial strike against the North.

KCNA Cites Vice Defense Minister's Remarks

SK0411051393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0424
GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 4 (KCNA)—As the South Korean military boss proclaimed a military countermove against us, it is inevitable for us to answer the South Korean side with the force of arms, declared Vice Marshal Kim Kwang-chin, vice-minister of People's Armed Forces, in a statement released on November 3

denouncing the South Korean "defense minister" for making outbursts that they would not rule out even a "military countermove," taking issue with the fictitious "nuclear development" by the North.

Kim Kwang-chin stated:

"Answering dialogue with dialogue, war with war is our stand.

"We are prepared for both dialogue and war.

"Those who forestall another are destined to meet a retaliation.

"If they think they can remain alive after killing others, it would be really a foolish thought.

"The outburst of the South Korean puppet defense minister predicts only his destruction and the doom of the Kim Yong-sam 'regime' wearing 'civilian' veil.

"They must be clearly mindful that their miserable destiny is their choice, not forced by us.

"The provokers would not be able to repent of it".

Daily Criticizes South's New Defense Budget

SK0411111193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1015
GMT 4 Nov 93

["Fools Jumping Into Fire With Faggot"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 4 (KCNA)—The self-styled "civilian" authorities of South Korea plan to increase the net "defence appropriations" for next year to more than 10,000 billion won, a larger amount than under the preceding military dictatorial "government."

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today brands this as another clear proof that they are a group of warmaniacs and traitors hell-bent on war preparations against the North.

The analyst says:

The "defence appropriations" is 9.6 percent bigger than this year's.

The entire fellow countrymen eagerly hope that the tensions will be eased on the Korean peninsula and the country be reunified by peaceful means at an early date.

The South Korean ruler who committed himself to placing the nation above outside forces when taking office is doing nothing but wrongs to hurt fellow countrymen in conspiracy with foreign aggressors.

Words urging buildup of "strength" are rolling more frequently these days off the tongues of the South Korean authorities who once advocated "civilian politics."

Facts show the South Korean ruling quarters intend to ignite a war against fellow countrymen as a shock force of foreign aggressors. It is, however, as foolish as jumping from the frying pan into the fire.

The reckless arms buildup of the South Korean rulers for fratricidal war will only bring into bolder relief the treacherous nature of the "civilian"-veiled war-maniacs.

Japan-U.S. Missile System Said To Pose Threat

SK0411045593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 4 Nov 93

[“NODONG SINMUN on Japan Defence Agency Director General’s Twaddle About DPRK’s ‘Missile Threat’”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 4 (KCNA)—The director general of the Japan Defence Agency told the cabinet committee meeting of the House of Councillors on November 2 that the DPRK was “stepping up the development of ballistic missiles”. He pressed home the need to bend efforts on “missile defence” in the “defence policy” of Japan to cope with it. Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says the Japanese authorities’ persistent moves to take issue with the DPRK are aimed at building their own strength.

The news analyst goes on:

The “threat of missiles” comes to the DPRK from Japan, not to Japan from the DPRK. Japan has stepped up the development of missiles in real earnest from 1960. Already long ago, she developed long-range missiles. Now, she is trying to establish even a theatre missile system by teaming up with the United States. All this is to attack other countries.

The Japanese authorities’ voluble talk about DPRK’s “development of missiles” is, in the final analysis, intended to create a pretext for arms buildup.

Japan must know that if the missiles of Japan are fired at the DPRK, she can not go scotfree, either. We do not intend to invade others but will never allow others to provoke us.

Japan must not act rashly.

Daily Warns Against Japanese ‘Militarism’

SK0411115493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 4 Nov 93

[“Danger of Reinvasion by Japanese Militarism Cannot Be Overlooked”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 4 (KCNA)—Asia and the rest of the world can never be in peace as long as the war moves of Japan which is becoming a new hotbed of war again in Asia are not held in check.

NODONG SINMUN says this today in a signed article exposing the danger of reinvasion by Japanese militarism.

Noting that militarization is entering a dangerous phase in Japan as the days go by, the article says:

Disarmament is becoming a trend after the end of the Cold War, but Japan is still putting spurs to arms buildup, increasing military expenditures.

Japan has planned to allocate 4,730 billion yen for military expenditures in the new fiscal year which begins in April 1994.

Japan ranks first in the world in the growing tempo of military spending and second in their appropriations.

Japan “Self-Defence Forces” have been strengthened to place third or fourth in the world in combat capacities.

The Japanese reactionaries have directed big efforts to modernizing the arms equipment of the “SDF” and further increasing their combat power and, particularly, increasing their overseas operational capacity.

Never should it go unnoticed that Japan’s nuclear armament has been stepped up on a full scale.

The black-hearted Japanese reactionaries are pushing ahead with nuclear armament under the signboard of “denuclearization”.

It was said that last year Japan had a stockpile of 26 tons of plutonium which is enough to make more than 3,000 nuclear bombs.

In fact, Japan has reached the stage of becoming a nuclear power in the shortest span of time if it is determined.

Japan, a criminal of the second world war, is stepping up militarism and nuclear armament in a bid to invade Asian nations again.

Japan is trying to shirk its responsibility for the postwar compensations under any circumstances and to justify its past crimes, not admitting them. This is an expression of its wild ambition to repeat the blood-stained history of aggression. Japan is creating a social atmosphere of embellishing the past history of militarism and worshipping war criminals.

Militarism which is being stepped up in Japan is prompted by its desire of reinvasion to gratify the old dream of the “Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere”.

The revived Japanese militarists’ wild ambition for reinvasion has begun to be put into practice. Notably, the Japanese reactionaries justified the overseas dispatch of the “Self-Defence Forces” by rigging up a “bill on cooperation in the United Nations Peace-Keeping Operation” and dispatched servicemen of the “SDF” to Southeast Asia and Africa. This means a start of the dangerous military expansion overseas.

All developments in Japan show that Japan is becoming a new hotbed of aggression and war again in Asia, and Japanese militarist reinvasion presents an actual danger.

Study Habits of Anti-Japanese Rebels Lauded
SK0411130293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032
GMT 4 Nov 93

["Effective Method of Study Used by Anti-Japanese Guerrillas"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 4 (KCNA)—It is 20 years since the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il published a work on November 5, 1973 on widely introducing the anti-Japanese guerrillas' method of study for a new turn in the study of the revolutionary idea of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The dear leader in the work elaborates on the need to improve the party's ideological work and the method of study, the great advantages of the method of study used by the anti-Japanese guerrillas and the tasks and ways of introducing the method.

An article of NODONG SINMUN today describes the work as a powerful weapon in the party's ideological work in that it clearly expounds important theoretical and practical questions in constantly improving the party's ideological work and the method of study as required by the developing reality.

In the work, the dear leader stresses the importance of study and says that study should be done effectively, not perfunctorily and that the method of study adopted by the anti-Japanese guerrillas, that is the question-and-answer method is a very good method of study.

The method of the anti-Japanese guerrillas is an effective one which makes everybody take an active part in study and deeply grasp the essence and content of questions through discussion and argument; it is also a revolutionary method of study which makes it possible to closely combine study with revolutionary practice.

It is a superior method of study in enhancing the revolutionary enthusiasm of the masses in study and powerfully mobilizing the party members and other working people to fulfil their revolutionary tasks.

The advantages and vitality of this method proposed by our party have been displayed.

In Korea all members of society regard study as the first and foremost revolutionary duty and make it part of their everyday life and their habit.

The reality of Korea eloquently proves that the unique question- and-answer method is an effective method of study in educating the party members and other working people on revolutionary lines and enabling them to push ahead with socialist construction.

Foreign Groups Condemn 1 Oct IAEA Resolution
SK0411055293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0415
GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 4 (KCNA)—The Mali Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee in a statement said that the adoption of a "resolution" by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was a wanton violation of the general principle of respect for the independence and sovereignty of a country.

The statement charged that some officials of the Secretariat of the IAEA continue their unreasonable act according to the intention and interests of the West and strongly demanded that the United Nations secretary-general promptly take a fair measure for checking it.

The British Group for the Study of the Revolutionary Activities and Works of Comrade Kim Il-song in a statement said that the IAEA should make an official apology for its unfair act against the DPRK and take the stand of impartiality and justice.

Alvaro Ramirez Gonzalez, chairman of the Democratic Lawyers Association of Nicaragua, in a statement issued to the press made a protest to some officials of the Secretariat of the United Nations and the Secretariat of the IAEA against their unreasonable act of impairing the authority and position of the U.N. secretary-general and said that there should be no repetition of such a political trick.

The nuclear problem of the Korean peninsula, he added, can be smoothly solved only through the talks between the DPRK and the United States which is directly responsible for the outbreak of the nuclear problem.

Government Establishes Relations With Macedonia

SK0411114693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046
GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 4 (KCNA)—A joint communique on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Macedonia was published on November 2.

"The governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Macedonia agreed to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level and exchange diplomatic missions for the development of the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries in all fields on the principles of independence, peace, mutual benefit and noninterference in each other's internal affairs."

The communique was signed by Yu Se-ung, DPRK ambassador to the Republic of Yugoslavia, on behalf of

the DPRK Government, and Stevo Crvenkovski, minister of external relations, on behalf of the Macedonian Government.

Yugoslav Ambassador Departs After Recall

SK0411025693 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 2 Nov 93

[Text] Milan Seslija, ambassador of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to our country, departed for his home country on 2 November by airplane after being recalled by his country.

Zimbabwe Paper Denounces Anti-Socialist Campaign

SK0311151893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1505 GMT 3 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 3 (KCNA)—The Zimbabwean paper GUARDIAN October 22 exposed the anti-socialist campaign of the imperialists and the renegades of socialism.

The paper in an article titled "The Democratic People's Republic of Korea deals a [word indistinct] Renegades of Socialism" says that the dear leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Chong-il in his immortal classical work "Abuses of Socialism are Intolerable" gave an all-round exposition of the reactionary nature and absurdity of the preposterous sophism of the imperialists and the renegades of socialism viciously slandering socialism and dealt a decisive blow at them.

The imperialists have resorted to the malicious anti-socialist campaign as the socialist forces grew in strength after the Second World War, the paper says, and points out: The renegades of socialism abandoned the idea and principle of socialism and took the road of following imperialism.

The imperialists and the renegades of socialism are intensifying their false propaganda against socialism, but they cannot hoodwink people, and there may be turns and twists in the course of historic development, but the current of the times cannot be turned back, the paper stresses.

New Land Lease Law Permits Foreign Investment

SK0411043193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 4 (KCNA)—The law on the lease of land of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was adopted according to decision No. 40 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly (dated October 27, 1993).

The law consists of 6 chapters and 42 articles.

"Chapter 1 Underlying Principles of the Law on the Lease of Land" stipulates that this law contributes to the

establishment of the order of leasing land needed for foreign investors and foreign investment businesses and the use of the leased land.

Corporations and individuals of other countries may lease and use land of the DPRK and Koreans residing outside its territory may also do so under this law.

The lease of land shall be placed under the unified control of the Land Administration Agency.

The lease of land in the free economic and trade zone shall be undertaken by the zone authorities.

The period of the lease of land shall be decided by agreement between the contractors within the limit of 50 years defined by "the Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on Foreigners' Investment".

The lessee shall manage and use the leased land under the law and regulations of the DPRK and the land lease contract.

"Chapter 2 Method of Leasing Land" stipulates that land may be leased through negotiation and by bidding and auction in the free economic and trade zone.

"Chapter 3 Transfer and Mortgage of the Right To Use Land" stipulates that the lessee may transfer (through sale, re-lease, donation and inheritance) or mortgage the right to use the whole or part of the leased land to a third party with the approval of the land lease agency.

The law also has "Chapter 4 Charge of Rental and Usage Charges of Land", "Chapter 5 Return of the Right To Use Land" and "Chapter 6 Sanctions and Settlement of Disputes".

Kim Il-song's Works Studied, Read Abroad

SK0411055593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0411 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 4 (KCNA)—"With the Century," reminiscences of the great leader President Kim Il-song was introduced by the Peruvian paper INDEPENDENCIA, the Palestinian magazine PALESTINE AL-THAWRAH and Radio Ya of Nicaragua.

A seminar on the reminiscences was held by the Group for the Study of the Immortal Chuche Idea of Comrade Kim Il-song of teachers of Entebbe Higher Middle School of Uganda and a reading session was held by the Group for the Study of the Chuche Philosophy of the Bishop Higher Middle School in Mukono district of Uganda.

Industries Reported To Achieve Goals Early

SK0411115293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 4 (KCNA)—Industrial establishments of Korea have carried out this year's

plans ahead of the set time with the approach of elections of deputies to provincial (municipal) people's assemblies (November 21).

The yearly plans have been fulfilled by the Nanam coal mining machine complex, the Chongjin tractor accessories plant, the Chongjin aluminium factory, the Chongjin structural steel works, the Kyongsong machine plant and 50 other industrial establishments in North Hamgyong Province.

The general bureau of Taedonggang construction, the Pyongyang metal building-materials factory, the East Pyongyang metal fixtures factory, the Pyongyang wood-working combine and many other units in Pyongyang have carried out their yearly plans two or three months ahead of the schedule.

South Korea

Reportage on U.S. Defense Secretary's Visit

Decision on Team Spirit Postponed

SK0411011893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0105 GMT
4 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 4 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States agreed Thursday [4 November] not to make any decision for the present on whether to hold the joint military exercise "Team Spirit" next year. The two countries decided that they will make the decision after watching signs of change in North Korea's nuclear policy.

The agreement came between Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae and U.S. Secretary of Defense Les Aspin at a tete-a-tete on Thursday morning. Aspin is here for the 25th annual security consultative meeting (SCM).

Kwon and Aspin shared the opinion that Team Spirit is inevitable as long as the South Korea-U.S. defense system exists, officials said. But the two countries will study the possibility of suspending the exercise if North Korea shows a drastic change in its policy and returns to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), accepts International Atomic Energy Agency and inter-Korean inspections of its nuclear facilities and implements the inter-Korean declaration for a nuclear-free Korean peninsula.

Seoul Radio on SCM Talks Results

SK0411045093 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
0300 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] The ROK and the United States agreed to withhold the decision to shelve the suspension of the 1994 Team Spirit exercise until after further observation of North Korea's attitude.

Reporter Kim Hui-chol reports from the Ministry of Defense on talks between the ROK defense minister and the U.S. defense secretary held this morning and the

plenary meeting of the ROK-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting [SCM] to be held this afternoon:

[Begin Kim recording] Recognizing that North Korea's nuclear development should be deterred by all means, the ROK defense minister and the U.S. defense secretary agreed not to make the decision at this meeting on whether or not they will suspend the 1994 Team Spirit exercise. The two defense ministers agreed to review whether the two countries will suspend the 1994 Team Spirit exercise if North Korea shows an epochal change in its attitude toward denuclearization on the Korean peninsula, including acceptance of a special inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency and North-South mutual inspection.

The two defense ministers also reconfirmed their previous position of withholding the second phase of reduction of U.S. forces in the ROK until North Korea's nuclear issue is completely resolved.

The two defense ministers finally approved the timing for transferring the right of peacetime operational control over Korean forces, which was agreed to at the Military Committee meeting on 3 November.

At the same time, it was learned that the defense ministers discussed in-depth the way to transfer the right of wartime operational control of the 7th Fleet under the U.S. Pacific Command to the ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command according to the new U.S. defense policy called "simultaneous victory in two regions in dispute."

At the plenary meeting of the ROK-U.S. SCM to be held this afternoon, it appears the two countries will reconfirm their existing security relations and will specifically work out mid- and long-range methods for military cooperation between the countries.

It was learned that at today's meeting, the two countries will reach an agreement on the issue of increasing the share of the defense cost of the U.S. forces in the ROK to \$235 million, on which they have seriously differed from each other in the past. This amount reflects an increase of \$40 million over this year.

After the meeting ends, the two countries will announce the result of the meeting through a joint statement and a joint news conference by the two defense ministers. [end recording]

President Awards Medal to Aspin

SK0411055393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0539 GMT
4 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 4 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam received U.S. Secretary of Defense Les Aspin at Chongwadae [presidential offices] on Thursday and they exchanged views on the North Korean nuclear issue and the security setup between South Korea and the United States. President Kim reiterated the Seoul government's firm position on the North Korean nuclear problem and

highly evaluated the South Korea-U.S. agreement to transfer peacetime operational control authority (OCA) to the Korean military.

The agreement will be a turning point for the mutually supplementary partnership of the two countries in the future, Kim told Aspin.

Aspin arrived in Seoul Wednesday to attend the 25th annual security consultative meeting (SCM). President Kim noted that the SCM is being held for the first time since new administrations were launched both in Washington and Seoul and said it is a good opportunity to reaffirm the traditional security cooperation and map out the direction for the future.

Kim decorated Aspin with the Tong-il Medal of the Order of National Security Merit. He also asked the visitor to convey his good wishes to President Bill Clinton.

The Kim-Aspin meeting was attended by Korean Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae, Korean Ambassador to Washington Han Sung-su, Korean Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Yi Yang-ho, U.S. Ambassador to Seoul James Laney and U.S. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. John M. Shalikashvili.

Aspin-Kim Yong-sam Meeting Noted

SK0411084693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0801 GMT
4 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 4 (YONHAP)—South Korean President Kim Yong-sam, calling North Korea "the most unpredictable regime in the world," stressed the need Thursday for his country and the United States to be fully ready to cope with any eventuality that might even involve military engagement.

Talking with U.S. Defense Secretary Les Aspin during a courtesy call, the South Korean leader noted North Korea's abrupt cancellation of an inter-Korean working-level contact slated for the day in accusing the communist North of being "unpredictable."

Kim spoke highly of the decision at the annual Korea-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting (SCM) to delay its decision on whether or not to hold the annual joint military exercise "Team Spirit" next year.

"It is a prudent judgement," he said.

The first SCM since new administrations were inaugurated in both countries not only brought a sense of relief to the people in South Korea but sent a warning to North Korea as it exemplified bilateral cooperation, particularly in the midst of worldwide concern over the North Korean nuclear issue, Kim said.

North Korea has recently made it an aim of its contacts with the United States and South Korea to cause estrangement between the allies, he said.

"North Korea's development of the Nodong-1 and Nodong-2 missiles, let alone its nuclear development, are betraying its ambition to communize the South by force," he said.

"Kim Il-song is reiterating the phrase '95 unification," he said.

Kim decorated Aspin with the Tong-il Medal of the order of National Security Merit. He also asked the visitor to convey his good wishes to President Bill Clinton.

The Kim-Aspin meeting was attended by Korean Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae, Korean Ambassador to Washington Han Sung-su, Korean Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Yi Yang-ho, U.S. Ambassador to Seoul James Laney and U.S. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. John M. Shalikashvili.

Aspin Remarks at Briefing Cited

SK0411084293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0829 GMT
4 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 4 (YONHAP)—The South Korea-U.S. joint military exercise "Team Spirit" can be conducted at any time of the year and thus there is no deadline to decide whether to cancel or continue the annual defensive drill, Seoul and Washington's top military chiefs said Thursday.

While the two sides withheld an announcement on transferring wartime operation control of the U.S. 7th Fleet to the Combined Forces Command (CFC), military officials confirmed that they have agreed on the importance of the transfer.

"It's a technical military matter. There have only been overall discussions, and it's not yet the proper time to make an announcement," South Korean Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae said.

"There is no decision on the (Team Spirit drill) issue at this time," U.S. Secretary of Defense Les Aspin told a jam-packed press conference capping the two-day annual Security Consultative Meeting (SCM).

"There was no decision," Kwon repeated to reporters. "The decision depends on how North Korea chooses to respond in the coming days."

Chas Freeman, assistant U.S. secretary of defense, elaborated that Team Spirit does not have to take place in March or April as it has traditionally in the past.

"Team Spirit can be conducted anytime," he said, suggesting that the two countries will go ahead with the maneuver whenever it is deemed necessary.

A Seoul-Washington decision on the fate of next year's Team Spirit, a subject of repeated protests by North Korea, which claims that the military maneuver is a practise for nuclear war, was one of the centerpieces of this year's SCM. But the two sides decided to omit any

reference to the exercise in their joint communique. Because the maneuver usually takes place in March and April, a decision has to be made by January at the latest for technical reasons.

What they did instead was reaffirm in the joint communique, unlike past practices, that the United States will continue to provide a nuclear umbrella for South Korea.

"The issue of nuclear umbrella is a pretty clear statement of fact, of historical veracity," Aspin told the press conference, and it was included in this year's communique because it was "worth noting at this time of uncertainty."

"We are working hard on diplomatic solution," the defense secretary said, but warned that the United States is "prepared for any contingency."

There are a "number of options" if North Korea refuses to comply with International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) nuclear safeguards, and the United States is in consultation with its allies on the situation.

"But our patience is not unlimited," Aspin said.

Washington's revision of its nuclear policy is in step with a new, different kind of nuclear threat around the globe, where the magnitude is smaller but the predictability is low of the people holding the nuclear weapons.

"North Korea is an example of this kind of situation," he said.

Freeman, asked to comment on Washington's own assessment of North Korea's nuclear development, said that the United States is convinced the communist country has a program to build nuclear weapons.

"But there is no indication at present that there is any reprocessing of spent fuel going on," he told the press conference following the session with Kwon and Aspin.

"If North Korea does any reprocessing, we will know about it," Freeman said. While the IAEA is responsible for deciding when the nuclear safeguards have been broken in North Korea, "we (the United States) are not totally dependent on the IAEA on this matter," he said.

Kwon denied that the two countries made any final decision on the wartime operational command transfer of the 7th Fleet, but Freeman said the two sides agreed that under current circumstances the 7th Fleet, along with other elements, should be placed under the naval command of the CFC. Such a transfer is of "earnest importance," he said.

Joint Communique Issued

SK0411071493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0655 GMT
4 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 4 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States expressed serious concern Thursday that

North Korea continues to build up conventional offensive forces as well as weapons of mass destruction and long-range missiles.

The two countries said they are also concerned that North Korea continues to refuse the necessary inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency that would enable a determination to be made as to whether the North is pursuing its nuclear weapons program.

The expression of concern was contained in a joint communique issued following the 25th annual security consultative meeting (SMC), attended by defense chiefs of the two countries, Kwon Yong-hae of South Korea and Les Aspin of the United States.

Stating that such North Korean activities pose a serious threat to the stability not only of Korea but the Northeast Asian region, the communique called on North Korea to faithfully implement its obligations under the IAEA Safeguards Agreement and accept mutual inter-Korean inspections of its nuclear facilities.

With regard to the North Korean situation, Kwon and Aspin agreed to continue close consultation to maintain deterrence and preparedness for any eventuality, the communique said.

Aspin reasserted the firm commitment of the United States to render prompt and effective assistance to repel any armed attack against South Korea in accordance with the bilateral defense treaty of 1954, the communique said.

Aspin emphasized that the United States had considered the security threat on the Korean peninsula in recently developing the so-called win-win strategy of U.S. defense policy.

The United States has carefully structured its forces, it said, in order to ensure that it retains sufficient forces to respond effectively to any military contingency on the Korean peninsula.

The win-win strategy, worked out by the Clinton administration, calls for the United States to engage in international conflicts occurring in two regions and win both nearly simultaneously.

Minister Kwon and Secretary Aspin had directed the ROK-U.S. military committee to implement the win-win strategy as it pertains to the Korean peninsula, the communique said.

The communique said that both sides shared the view that South Korea-U.S. combined military exercises are necessary to maintain the ROK-U.S. combined defense readiness.

Earlier it was reported that the two countries have decided to delay making a decision on whether to hold the joint military exercise "Team Spirit" next year,

linking their decision to North Korea's attitude in negotiations with the United States and South Korea on the nuclear issue.

Permanent suspension of the Team Spirit exercise was one of North Korea's conditions for its negotiations with South Korea and the United States.

At the SCM meeting, the U.S. side reconfirmed that the second phase drawdown of U.S. Forces in Korea would be postponed until the uncertainties surrounding the North Korean nuclear program have been thoroughly resolved, it said.

Aspin reiterated the firm commitment made by President Clinton to maintain U.S. Forces in Korea as long as the people of South Korea want and need them to stay, it said.

With regard to the transfer by Dec. 1, 1994, of the operational control authority of the combined forces to the South Korean military, Kwon and Aspin directed the ROK-U.S. Military Committee to ensure smooth transfer, it said.

Kwon and Aspin also shared the view that putting an end to the South-North confrontation would contribute not only to the long-term common interest of the two countries but also to the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region, it said. They agreed to develop South Korea-U.S. security cooperation in such a way as to contribute to the progress of South-North relations and the eventual reunification of the Korean peninsula, it added.

The two sides decided that they will hold the next SCM in the United States at a mutually convenient time in 1994.

Seoul Radio Reports on Communique

SK0411090893 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0800 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] The ROK and the United States have agreed to postpone making a decision on whether to suspend the Team Spirit exercise next year. The two sides decided to make the decision later after watching North Korea's attitude for the time being.

The two sides held the ROK-U.S. Defense Minister talks and the annual Security Consultative Meeting today [4 November] consecutively. The two countries wound up the two-day schedule after announcing a joint communique consisting of 11 items, including reserving the decision on whether to suspend the Team Spirit exercise and postponing the second phase pullout of U.S. Forces in the ROK.

The joint communique signed by ROK Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae and his U.S. counterpart Les Aspin consists of 11 items including postponing the additional withdrawal of U.S. Forces in the ROK; strengthening assistance to the ROK Armed Forces in an emergency by restructuring U.S. Forces; calling on North Korea to

accept nuclear inspections; and the necessity of the ROK-U.S. combined exercise.

Regarding the issue on putting off making a decision on suspending the Team Spirit exercise next year, the two sides agreed to review the issue later if North Korea shows a drastic change in its policy toward the nuclear issue and accepts International Atomic Energy Agency and inter-Korean inspections of nuclear facilities.

The two countries also agreed to transfer armistice operational control of the ROK Armed Forces to the ROK side. They had in-depth discussions on transferring operational control of the U.S. Seventh Fleet to the commander of the ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command by December 1, 1994.

With regard to the share of expenses of U.S. Forces in the ROK, over which the two sides had been in a tug-of-war, the two sides agreed to set the expense at \$260 million, \$40 million more than this year.

Results of U.S.-ROK Working-Level Meeting Noted

SK0411131593 Seoul YONHAP in English 1206 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 4 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States on Thursday afternoon held a working-level meeting to discuss ways to cope with North Korea's nuclear issues.

Korean officials were headed at the talks by Sin Ki-pok, first assistant foreign minister, and American officials by Thomas Hubbard, deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asia and Pacific affairs.

An informed source said the two sides agreed to exert peaceful efforts to resolve the nuclear question through dialogue.

The two countries also reaffirmed that there should be a substantial progress in talks between the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and North Korea and between the two Koreas before a third-round high-level meeting could take place between the United States and North Korea.

A Foreign Ministry official said, "It seems that North Korea chose to suspend working-level inter-Korean contacts, concerned about any drastic progress in the South-North dialogue at a time when their dealing with the IAEA is going a rough sailing."

The United States' stance toward the nuclear issues is that the question should be resolved peacefully through dialogue but there is a limit in such peaceful efforts, the official added.

Ackerman Cited on Meeting With Kim Il-Song

SK0411041693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0201 GMT
4 Nov 93

[Text] Washington, Nov. 3 (YONHAP)—Rep. Gary Ackerman, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, says he is convinced that North Korean President Kim Il-song is interested in resolving the nuclear issue.

"I firmly believe both (Kim Il-song and South Korean President Kim Yong-sam) are interested in resolving the nuclear issue," said Ackerman, who recently visited both North and South Korea. Speaking at a public hearing held by his subcommittee on the North Korean nuclear issue, Ackerman (D.-New York) said Kim Il-song had assured him that North Korea has no nuclear weapons, no nuclear capability, no reason to develop such weapons, and no money for such a project. But Ackerman said that he had replied with former U.S. President Ronald Reagan's famous dictum: "Trust but verify."

Ackerman said he had stressed to the North Korean leader that the U.S. congress fully supports the Clinton administration's handling of the issue, and that Americans of all parties are unanimous in supporting the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to bring North Korea into the international inspection regime. He said he also had the opportunity to meet with South Korean President Kim Yong-sam after becoming the first foreigner to pass from North Korea to South Korea across the "infamous" demilitarized zone.

Meanwhile, Selig Harrison, a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, told the hearing that it is not desirable for the international community to push North Korea too hard.

Harrison suggested that in order to resolve the nuclear issue, the United States and North Korea set up a liaison office in each other's capital as a prelude to forming formal relations between the two countries.

The suggestion was one of the 10 items Harrison proposed. Others included the signing of a peace treaty, ending the Korean war, and acceptance of North Korea into the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) as some in Japan have suggested. But former ambassador Paul Wolfowitz; William Clark, senior advisor on Asia in the Center for Strategic and International Studies; and William Taylor, senior vice president of the center, raised objections to such suggestions and expressed the need for a firmer stance on North Korea.

ROK, U.S. Customs Officials Agree on Action

SK0411060893 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
4 Nov 93 p 9

[Text] Korea and the United States yesterday agreed to take joint action against money laundering, violators of intellectual property rights and drug smuggling. The

agreement was made between Kim Kyong-tae and George J. Weise, commissioners of the Customs Offices in Korea and the United States, at the conclusion of the Eighth Bilateral Customs Cooperation Meeting, which opened Tuesday [2 November]. The Korean Customs Administration also agreed to dispatch officials to the Customs and Trade Symposium of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), to be held in Seattle.

Finance Official Meets With U.S. Counterpart

SK0411041293 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
4 Nov 93 p 9

[Text] Assistant Finance Minister Yim Chang-yol expressed concern over the recent U.S. move to deny most-favored-nation (MFN) status to countries before they commit themselves to opening their markets to U.S. financial institutions, saying this deviates from the spirit of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which espouses the principle of nondiscriminatory treatment of all countries.

Yim was referring to the U.S. move to legislate a bill, often called the Fair Trade in Financial Services Act.

The "Riegle Bill" stipulates that Washington will guarantee full national treatment and access only to countries that are committed to opening their markets but it does not assure countries that keep their markets closed, the right to expand their operations in the United States or to take advantage of new powers or benefits from future arrangements.

After a meeting with his U.S. counterpart Jeffrey R. Shafer at his office yesterday, Yim told THE KOREA TIMES that the bill, if passed, may weaken the U.S. leadership role in the global financial market. He said, "I conveyed Seoul's concern to Shafer today."

He quoted Shafer as having stated that the United States will abide by the MFN principle and will make efforts to open the U.S. market wider to foreign financial institutions if other countries make efforts for the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round.

Yim said Korea and the United States agreed to make a joint effort for the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round multilateral financial services negotiations. He accented that Seoul will take a more flexible attitude in the Uruguay Round if Washington does not deviate from the universal MFN principle and the other countries also make efforts to expand the opening of their financial markets. But he categorically ruled out the possibility that Seoul will provide basic contents of the nation's five-year financial reform plan to the Uruguay Round offer list as minimum concession as was requested by the United States.

It is impossible for Korea to commit itself to implementing all of the plans today will that happen in the future on a package basis, Yim said.

The United States acknowledged that Korea's five-year financial reform plan is comprehensive, he said, adding that Seoul and Washington agreed to hold a bilateral financial policy talks at a convenient time.

New U.S. Ambassador Praised as 'Right Man'

SK0411030093 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 4 Nov 93 p 6

[Editorial: "Solid Ties With Washington"]

[Text] The new United States ambassador to Seoul, James T. Laney, assumed his office here upon presenting his credentials to President Kim Yong-sam early this week. The tapping of an old Korea hand, though without a State Department background, for the American chancery is a good case of putting the right man in the right place, much to the credit of the Clinton administration as well as to the longtime friend of this nation.

The chief envoy of Korea's traditional and strongest ally has arrived at a momentous period in the development of the Korean-American relations in the midst of stormy changes in the international environment. The long-standing partnership between Seoul and Washington faces a challenge of continuation and reinforcement through a timely and realistic readjustment. Despite the ending of the Cold War confrontation in most parts of the world, the tension in and around the Korean Peninsula bred by North Korean intransigence still persists unabated. This grim fact of life hardly permits a let-down in our common cause of preserving peace in the region. It provides the uncertain setting for the current annual security consultative meeting between the defense chiefs of the two countries in Seoul.

The rich reserve of firsthand experience in the trying realities of Korea Ambassador Laney has accumulated since prior to the outbreak of the Korean War places him on a unique vantage point in his effort to deal with the conditions, needs and problems of Korea today. The close personal associations he has maintained with a number of our political leaders and personalities in various other spheres, including President Kim, will prove to be a definite asset to his diplomatic job of enhancing and sophisticating the bilateral ties a notch above others. He had served in the U.S. Army here and later returned to teach at Yonsei University for many years before his recruitment as president of Emory University in 1977.

The profound understanding and sympathy the new ambassador has for the Korean people are supposed to operate as effective lubricant in handling the complex and stick agenda pending between the Seoul and Washington governments. A greater degree of empathy and mutual respect based on shared values and principles should further consolidate the cooperative Korean-American bonds which will enable them to play a constructive joint role in promoting the stability and prosperity of Northeast Asia and the entire Pacific basin community.

Government Deplores North's Canceling Contact

SK0411033993 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0305 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] This morning the government sent a telephone message to North Korea in the name of Song Yong-tae, vice minister of the National Unification Board [NUB] and our side's senior delegate to the North-South working-level contact. The message said our government strongly urges the North to respond to the working-level contact in order to realize the exchange of special envoys.

In the message, the government said it is deplorable that North Korea postponed the talks by intentionally distorting true intentions contained in the remarks of our side's defense minister in the wake of final negotiations on the draft agreement on the procedure for exchanging special envoys.

In particular, North Korea unilaterally nullified even the date of talks agreed to by the two sides. This causes suspicion over the will for realization of the exchange of special envoys.

Meanwhile, at a news conference, Song Yong-tae, vice minister of the NUB, said the government understands that North Korea has temporarily suspended dialogue in order to readjust its opinions in the wake of pressure of international sanctions, rather than the refusal of overall dialogue. He added that the government will work out countermeasures after watching the North side's attitude for the time being.

Government Urges North To Reschedule Dialogue

SK0411062793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0610 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 4 (YONHAP)—South Korea has expressed regret to North Korea for refusing to attend Thursday's scheduled fourth round of inter-Korean working-level talks on an exchange of special envoys, and urged it reschedule the meeting as soon as possible.

"It is regrettable that your side suspended the inter-Korean working-level contact on the pretext of improper reasons at this juncture when both sides are about to hold final negotiations on procedural matters related to an exchange of special envoys," South Korean Chief Delegate Song Yong-tae said in a telephone message Thursday to his North Korean counterpart.

"It is a thousand pities that your side has put off the meeting by intentionally distorting the true meaning of our defense minister's remarks. I strongly urge that your side, rightly aware of the grave situation caused by your action, should come again to the working-level contact as soon as possible.

"The international community recently expressed its grave concern that your side has failed to discharge its nuclear safeguards obligations and has widened the area

of non-compliance. It is hoped that your side will avoid international sanctions by not dragging out the solution of your nuclear issue.

"As our side has maintained a position of solving the nuclear issue peacefully through dialogue, your side should make a sincere approach to solution of the issue with renewed recognition of the issue and renewed determination to solve it."

**DPRK Said 'Desperately Seeking'
Countermeasures**

*SK0411020493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0145 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[“News Analysis” by Yi Tong-min]

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 4 (YONHAP)—North Korea's refusal to attend Thursday's inter-Korean contact threw cold water on the mood of dialogue, but South Korea cautiously said it was not really a refusal but a postponement. A fourth contact to arrange an exchange of presidential envoys was scheduled for the morning, but North Korea announced Wednesday evening it was not going to show up.

The reason was the South Korean defense minister's remarks on television a day earlier that Seoul will not forego military countermeasures if North Korea refuses to resolve its nuclear problem. But this was only a handy excuse, officials say.

Developments in the past few days have apparently cornered the communist state. Negotiations with the United States are not making enough progress for North Korea, which wants Washington to promise an improvement in relations before it will realow nuclear inspection.

In the midst of these frustrating negotiations, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution Nov. 1 pressing it to “cooperate immediately” with International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards.

North Korea was the only one to vote against the resolution that 140 UN members voted for, with its staunchest ally China abstaining with eight other countries.

Moreover, Thursday is the day South Korea and the United States to announce the results of their annual security consultative meeting (SCM). The two sides are expected to hold their decision on whether to cancel next year's joint military exercise “Team Spirit” to wait further on North Korea's reaction.

To discuss exchange of presidential envoys in the morning and just a few hours later hear South Korea and the United States announce they are withholding the decision on Team Spirit would be a blow to North Korea.

Seoul officials call the current situation “a battle for the reins.” Whoever gives in to other side's demands loses the reins of control, they say.

North Korea fully realizes this and is desperately seeking effective countermeasures, the real reason why it could not come to Thursday's contact. Its announcement said Pyongyang will see how Seoul chooses to behave over a certain period, suggesting that it wasn't really a refusal but a postponement.

North Korea's announcement was received in Seoul while U.S. Secretary of Defense Les Aspin, here for the SCM, and South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu were discussing what to do if the IAEA declares the safeguards broken.

Han and Aspin reaffirmed that substantive progress in inter-Korean and North Korea-IAEA dialogue are prerequisites to the next round of high-level Pyongyang-Washington talks.

Officials here say North Korea well knows what the United States demands before it will consider relations improvement. Knowing this, North Korea would have to come forward, they say.

Pyongyang and Washington held two important contacts in New York where each side explained what it wants. Officials say it's North Korea's turn to answer on what the United States demanded at the last contact. Where the nuclear situation is headed will become clear at this next contact.

North Korean Trade Delegation Visits Germany

*SK0411011693 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in
English 4 Nov 93 p 8*

[From the “Business News Briefs” column]

[Text] Amid international controversy over Pyongyang's nuclear weapons development program, a North Korean trade delegation visited Germany Oct. 14-23, the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. reported yesterday. During the visit, the mission called on German businesses to invest in free economic and trade zones of Najin and Sonbong in the estuary of the Tumen River which straddles the borders of North Korea, China and Russia, a report from the Hamburg branch of the corporation said. Under a program arranged by the Geneva-based U.N. Department of Economic and Development, the North Korean trade delegation visited four German cities, Cologne, Hannover, Bremen and Hamburg, it said.

DPRK Businessman Complains of Shortages

*SK0411033193 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
3 Nov 93 p 2*

[Article by Beijing-based correspondent Pak Sung-chun from the “Reporter's Pocketbook” column: “North Korean Businessman in Beijing”]

[Text] [Unidentified ROK businessman] They say economic sanctions may be imposed on North Korea. If this is the case, what will happen to North Korea?

[Unidentified North Korean businessman] Let them impose economic sanctions on us! Our DPRK has always been under economic sanctions. Now, you are singing the old lullaby, "Economic Sanctions," again.

[ROK businessman] Once economic sanctions are imposed, embargoes on both exports and imports will take effect. In particular, you will not be able to import oil. Will this be a big problem for you?

[North Korean businessman] Our international trade, at the most, is confined to transactions with Japan through the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, with Hong Kong through Macao, with Russia, and with China on a small scale. Why, then, should we be afraid of economic sanctions? I do not think economic sanctions will make any difference under these circumstances.

This is the dialogue exchange between a ROK businessman and a North Korean businessman who ran across each other in a restaurant in Beijing about three months ago. The ROK businessman asked the North Korean businessman if he is aware that the international community is dominated by an attitude of leaning toward imposing economic sanctions on North Korea due to its nuclear issue. He answered my question with angry eyes, saying: "We are not afraid at all. Let them do it if they wish."

Three months have passed since this dialogue took place, and these days the international community, including the ROK and the United States, is considering imposing sanctions on North Korea through the United Nations. Amid such a prevailing atmosphere, once again a ROK businessman and a North Korean businessman in Beijing came across each other in a restaurant in Beijing. They exchanged this dialogue:

[North Korean businessman] Can you suggest a way for us to secure a considerable amount of grain, such as rice or wheat?

[ROK businessman] It is not difficult to secure rice or wheat. How do you think your government will settle the payments for rice or wheat?

[North Korean businessman] Well, they asked me to find out if transactions can be done on a credit basis.

[ROK businessman] Forget about it. You have never kept your word up to now.

[North Korean businessman] We, then, can make payments in gold, silver, or zinc.

The ROK businessman in Beijing says these remarks by the North Korean businessman, which lacked boldness and confidence, make a striking comparison with his comments three months ago.

Other ROK businessman in Beijing who have encountered North Korean businessmen, say that both North Korean businessmen and people say many words that lack confidence in a pressing and desperate atmosphere.

These ROK businessmen also say North Korean businessmen do not hesitate to reveal North Korea's desperate situation to ROK businessmen, saying: "Winter is approaching. We need many pieces of padded clothes. This is a pressing problem for us. Can you suggest a good method for settling the payments"? North Korean businessmen also add: "We are running out of oil for fishing boats. As you know well, if we anchor fishing boats for more than two months, they are reduced to scrap iron. Please tell us how we can get oil."

Official in Geneva To Explain GATT Position

SK0411024493 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 4 Nov 93 p 8

[Text] A top Korean official held a series of meetings with trade officials in Geneva Tuesday [2 November] to seek their understanding of the Korean position on the Uruguay Round [UR] of multilateral trade talks.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries reported that Kim Kang-hui, its first assistant minister, met Germain Denis, chairman of the Uruguay Round's Market Access Negotiations Group.

Kim, elaborating the difficulties faced by the Korean agricultural industry, asked Denis to support Korea's position on agricultural negotiations at the trade talks, ministry officials said.

Kim, in particular, emphasized that Korea is unable to open its rice market because the staple food grain constitutes the backbone of the Korean farm industry, they said.

Denis told Kim that he understood that Korea is in a difficult position on the Round but that Korea should try to reduce the number of farm goods it hopes to exclude from the tariffication and market access regulations. He also asked the Korean minister to seek agreement with concerned countries by initiating bilateral discussions at the earliest possible date.

Kim also met Gifford, the chief Canadian delegate to the trade negotiations, later in the day and they agreed to undertake close cooperation in the Round's agricultural negotiations, the officials said.

Government May Withdraw Troops in Somalia Early

SK0411015293 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 3 Nov 93 p 1

[Excerpt] It has been learned that the government has worked out a policy to withdraw the ROK Army's

Sangnoku [Evergreen Tree] Unit, currently in war-stricken Somalia conducting the United Nations' Peace-keeping Operation [PKO], three to four months earlier than scheduled by linking its withdrawal with that of the U.S. troops.

On 2 November, a high-ranking government official said that in the event that the United States withdraws U.S. troops from Somalia by March next year as revealed by U.S. President Clinton, there would be no need for the ROK Army to remain there. To this end, the government has established a policy of withdrawing the Sangnoku Unit around the same time as that of the U.S. troops for the safety of the unit members.

This official stated that since it is clear that the United States leads the PKO even though it is being carried out in the name of the United Nations, it is questionable whether the ROK Army can carry out the PKO independently following U.S. troop withdrawal. Western countries, including France and Belgium, are showing signs of withdrawing their troops early next year, and this provides even more justification for the ROK Army's early withdrawal.

He added that the dispatch of ROK troops to Somalia in itself can be taken as sufficient fulfillment of its international obligations as a UN member.

In particular, on the morning of 23 October, an Italian army soldier guarding the ROK Army in the Balad area where the ROK Army is stationed, was seriously injured by Somali rifle fire. The Somali people also staged a large-scale demonstration, aggravating the situation in the area where the ROK Army is stationed. This being the case, the government is presently reviewing whether an appropriate time to withdraw would be when the U.S. troops withdraws or immediately afterwards. Concerning this, relevant officials noted that in consideration of international public opinion, the withdrawal of the ROK Army will most likely take place within a month after the withdrawal of U.S. troops.

According to the agreement with the United Nations, the ROK Army is supposed to carry out the PKO for one year until July next year.

In the event that the ROK Army has to lengthen the duration of its stay, approval must first be obtained from the National Assembly for each additional six-month period.

The ROK Army sent an advance unit to Somalia in the middle of July and following this, dispatched a 251-member engineer unit in August. They are currently engaged in construction and repair work on the road between Balad and Gioher. [passage omitted on details of project and on Somali military factions]

Russia May Use Naval Force To Protect Fishing *SK0411095393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0941 GMT 4 Nov 93*

[Text] Moscow, Nov. 4 (YONHAP)—A senior Russian official here warned on Thursday that Russia would not rule out the use of naval forces in protecting fishery resources in the Okhotsk Sea.

"We do not rule out the possibility of mobilizing naval forces to the extent of not using weapons to protect Okhotsk fishery resources," said K. Bykhashev, a legal advisor to the Russian committee on fisheries.

"Otherwise, Far Eastern fishermen who suffer from the indiscriminate catching of pollacks by foreign vessels, may turn to violent means."

The hardline policy comes on heels of the breakup of the second multilateral meeting on the protection of fishery resources in the Okhotsk held here recently. In their new policy, the fisheries committee plans to suspend all service for foreign vessels operating in Okhotsk high seas and stop giving fishery quotas to foreign fishery firms.

V.K. Zilanov, deputy chairman of the fisheries committee, said that South Korea, the United States and Japan agreed to the time-limit fishery ban imposed by Russia, while China and Poland agreed to reduce their pollack catch by 25 percent.

"The problem, however, is that we have no ability to enforce these agreements," Zilanov said.

A Russian source said that South Korean, Polish and Chinese fishing boats have been catching about 700,000 tons of pollacks in the Okhotsk area a year since 1991, causing about 350 million dollars' damage to Russia annually.

Russia Reportedly To Offer Crude Oil Supply *SK0411011593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0034 GMT 4 Nov 93*

[Text] Moscow, Nov. 4 (YONHAP)—South Korea, which depends for 80 percent of its petroleum needs on the Middle East, is looking to Russia for a supply of crude oil. The Russian Government has recently expressed willingness to supply crude oil to South Korea and the Seoul government is showing interest as part of its policy to diversify its sources of petroleum, diplomatic sources said Thursday.

In this connection, N. Kostyunin, first vice minister of the Energy Ministry, who left Wednesday to visit Korea, is expected to discuss the problem with Seoul officials, they said. Kostyunin will also discuss bilateral cooperation between Moscow and Seoul in Russia's plans to convert its energy industry into civilian industry and possible joint development of natural gas resources in Yakut in the Russian Far East, they said.

Russia hopes that while it will supply crude oil to South Korea, it wants South Korea to refine it and produce value-added petroleum products and share the profits from them, they said.

It would be the first time Russia, the world's largest oil producer, has expressed willingness to supply crude oil to South Korea. Russia is also interested in selling energy development related facilities and equipment to South Korea, they added.

Deng Xiaoping's Eldest Son Arrives in Seoul

*SK0411101193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0831 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 4 (YONHAP)—Deng Pufang, eldest son of China's paramount leader, Deng Xiaoping, arrived in Seoul on Thursday at the head of a delegation from the China Disabled Persons Federation, which he chairs. Deng and five other officials of the federation arrived as an advance party of a troupe of disabled dancers and musicians who will give a series of performances in Seoul and Ulsan.

Fifty-one performers will arrive in Seoul on Friday afternoon aboard a plane chartered from Asiana Airlines. The visitors, invited by the Korean Society for Rehabilitation of the Disabled, will also tour major industrial facilities and institutions.

Government Reduces DSC Budget by 14.4 Percent

*SK0411011793 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
3 Nov 93 p 2*

[Text] The Defense Security Command [DSC] budget allowance for 1994 will decrease by 14.4 percent compared to that of last year. According to the budget draft submitted by the government before the National Assembly on 3 November, the DSC's portion of the defense budget was set at 32.1 billion won, 5.4 billion less than last year's 37.5 billion won. Of the slashed amount, 1.8 billion won for information activities has been cut. In the past, the DSC budget has increased in proportion to the increase in the defense budget, and since the latter has been augmented by 9.6 percent, the reduction in the DSC's budget may be said to amount to more than 20 percent.

Businessman Violates Foreign Exchange Law

*SK0411034893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0150 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 4 (YONHAP)—The prosecution has confirmed, after questioning him for 21 hours between Wednesday and Thursday, that Hanhwa Group Chairman Kim Sung-yon violated the Foreign Exchange

Control Law by diverting 1.2 million U.S. dollars from his company for his private use without the finance minister's consent.

The central investigation division of the Supreme Public Prosecutor's office will now institute an action against Kim but not detain him physically in consideration for possible impacts on the business community, a prosecution spokesman said Thursday.

During the interrogation, Kim said 1.2 million dollars in an account in his name at a New Jersey Branch of the Midland National Bank was part of a 6.2 million-dollar commission refunded by a broker who had arranged a 125 million-dollar contract with Saudi Arabia for Pacific Construction Co., an affiliate of the Hanhwa Group, in 1984. The refund was made in two installments, in 1984 and 1985. Kim used the money for overseas travel and gave some of it to his relatives.

With respect to an expensive house he owns in Los Angeles, Kim said he allowed a Greek friend to use his name to buy the property and denied that it is his.

Victims of 1979 Coup Demand Compensation

*SK0411034593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0129 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 4 (YONHAP)—Two former Army officers, who were reportedly forced to retire in the wake of the "coup d'etat-like incident of the Army" in December 1979, have demanded that the government pay them compensation for damage suffered in the coup.

They are retired Maj. Gen. Ha So-kon, 65, former deputy Army chief of staff for Operations; and retired Lt. Col. Kim Kwang-hae, 50, formerly an assistant to Ha. Ha retired from active service after being bullet-wounded in an encounter with coup forces led by Maj. Gen. Chon Tu-hwan.

In a petition filed with the capital Defense Command on Wednesday, Ha and Kim [word indistinct] 1 billion won and 500 million won, respectively, in compensation for the mental and physical damage they suffered from the coup.

They filed the petition because President Kim Yong-sam defined it as "a coup d'etat-like incident" in May, they said, adding that they were unable to demand compensation earlier as the leaders of the coup had deprived President Choe Kyu-ha of his power and then ruled the country for over a decade.

If the petition is not heard, they will bring a civil action against the government, they said.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Says West Views Islam as Threat

BK0411061393 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0420 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Nov 4, (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed warned Thursday of the growing possibility that the Western powers would divert their attention to Islam following the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the communist system.

He said: There are indications that the West now regards Islam as a threat to them.

There is a possibility that we will become the direct target of Western attacks and based on the weak position now, we can be totally destroyed by such attacks.

Opening the 1993 UMNO [United Malays National Organization] general assembly here, Dr. Mahathir, who is UMNO president, said the image of Islam at present was at a low ebb and frequently linked to backwardness and failure in almost all aspects.

UMNO, is the main component party in the ruling National Front coalition.

The bias and prejudice of non-Muslims against Islam was caused by the Muslims themselves, he added.

The wealth bestowed on the Islamic nations has not benefited them and instead cause them to be at war among themselves and become [words indistinct] for Western weapons to the extent that Muslims and Islamic nations were easily used by the foreign powers, he said. He said that the radical and extreme actions of a small number of Muslims had led the non-Islamic world to believe that that was the Islamic way of life that was being preached, whereas it was a deviation from the normal Islamic teachings.

As a result, Muslims were helpless when their fellow Muslims in Bosnia were daily shot at, murdered, and driven away while those in Somalia faced hunger and death, he added. In this context, Dr. Mahathir said, Malaysia was making efforts to convince the world that Islam was actually a progressive religion and not at war with anyone.

This was being done through the Institute of Islamic Understanding, Bank Islam, Islamic Takaful Company and the International Islamic University. [Words indistinct] providing understanding to non-Muslims regarding Islam, it could be shown that the Islamic system was rational and had the capacity to meet human needs and that the Islamic education system could exist side by side with the other systems.

Determination of the objective to make Malaysia a developed nation by the year 2000 was made as a result of our awareness to rectify the perception of the non-Islamic world, that an Islamic nation need not necessarily be backward and weak, he said. He said that Malaysia, at the very least, should return to the era of Islamic glory when the mastering and pioneering of knowledge and sophisticated industries were largely found in the Islamic nations.

Recalling the beginning of the fall of Islamic nations, Dr. Mahathir said that the decline of the Muslims began when a group of Turkish Osmaniah Ulama, who feared the loss of influence, prevented the acquisition of knowledge other than [words indistinct].

Dr. Mahathir did not dismiss the need for a group of people truly learned and possessing deep knowledge in the religious field. We also do not deny the role of the group in the administration of an Islamic nation to ensure that policies and approaches are not contrary to the Islamic teachings, he said.

Mahathir on Nonattendance at APEC Meeting

BK0411091093 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Excerpts] The UMNO [United Malays National Organization] general assembly opened in Kuala Lumpur this morning with a contest for the three posts of vice presidents and 25 seats in the UMNO Supreme Council high on the agenda. [passage omitted]

On the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, APEC, Prime Minister Mahathir said Malaysia would not suffer by its decision not to attend the meeting in Seattle later this month. The prime minister said no major position would be made at the conference as it was supposed to be an informal meeting. [passage omitted]

Finance Minister Assumes UMNO Office

BK0411090693 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Finance Minister Datuk Sri Anwar Ibrahim today officially assumed the post of UMNO [United Malays National Organization] deputy president for a three-year term. The 46-year-old deputy party president succeeds Mr. Ghafar Baba, who declined the [words indistinct] to defend the post he had held since 1987. UMNO Permanent Chairman Tan Sri Sulaiman Ninam Shah announced Anwar as the deputy president before the start of voting for contested party posts at the UMNO General Assembly in Kuala Lumpur.

Minister Calls Foreign Report 'Inaccurate'

BK2910100393 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 26 Oct 93 p 9

[Text] Malacca, Mon.—Defence Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak today described as inaccurate a foreign

news report that Britain had used its foreign aid to sell aircraft, ships and other arms to Malaysia at a cost of several billion ringgit.

"The report is baseless," he said.

Najib was speaking to reporters after a closed-door meeting with State UMNO [United Malays National Organization] Youth leaders at Ayer Keroh near here today.

According to Reuters, a spokesman of Britain's main opposition party has demanded a Government response to a newspaper report that aid to Malaysia was used illegally to secure the arms deal.

Labour Party spokesman Jack Cunningham said Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd should tell Parliament's Lower House about a deal that the Independent on Sunday, a British newspaper, claimed breached laws banning the use of aid to clinch arms sales.

"The House of Commons will want to investigate the reports," he was quoted as saying yesterday by the newspaper.

The newspaper said a 234 million pounds (RM884.8 million) [Malaysian currency] aid for the Pergau dam project was linked to an order by Malaysia for the British-made Hawk ground support aircraft from British Aerospace.

Najib said the soft loan provided by the British Government recently was a strategy to get a contract for the Pergau dam project.

"It is not related to the Memorandum of Understanding between the British and Malaysian Governments on the purchase of arms signed in 1989," he said.

BERNAMA Begins Operations in Hanoi

BK0411091293 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 2 Nov 93 p 8

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Monday—Bernama, the national news agency, has set up a bureau in Hanoi, its third overseas office in the region.

The bureau, which began operations today, is headed by senior journalist Abdul Rahman Nurdin, formerly an assistant director in the general news service.

Editor-in-Chief Abdul Rahman Sulaiman said Bernama decided to set up a bureau in Vietnam because of the growing interest in that country, especially among businessmen and investors. Vietnam and the other Indochinese states are opening up and gradually moving towards a market economy.

The other Bernama overseas bureau in the region are Singapore and Jakarta. Bernama also has correspondents in Washington and London and stringers in Bonn (Germany), Dhaka (Bangladesh), and Canberra (Australia).

Cambodia

Sihanouk Sends Birthday Message 31 Oct

BK0311100993 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodia on 1300 GMT 2 Nov 93

[“Message from His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk Varman, king of the Kingdom of Cambodia” on 31 October in Beijing: recorded]

[Text] Today is the anniversary of my birthday, marking the beginning of the 72d year of my life. I am very moved by the honor to convey warmest affection, consideration, and loyalty to all my compatriots, including the two supreme patriarchs, venerable patriarch Mohakhousananda, venerable patriarch Pouthiveang, venerable Mongkoltepeacha, and the clergy, wise men, nuns, brothers and sisters, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and all respected and beloved compatriots.

I would like to express immense and very moving thanks to the two supreme patriarchs, venerable patriarch Mohakhousananda, venerable patriarch Pouthiveang, venerable Mongkoltepeacha, the clergy, wise men, nuns, brothers and sisters, and respected and beloved compatriots, along with the National Assembly, the royal government, the Khmer Royal Armed Forces, and the royal administration nationwide for the immeasurable and historic assistance since November 1991. This enabled me to achieve our supreme goal, namely saving our nation and motherland from the great and mortal danger it was going through from 18 March 1970 to 22 October 1991, and reviving a Cambodia with independence, sovereignty, unity, peace, and, now, liberal democracy. Along with this, there are also conditions for starting the restoration and reconstruction that will enable our motherland to regain its noble role and status in the world among modern countries and to have full sovereignty the way it had in the era of the kingdom and in the peaceful and happy Sangkum Reas Niyum era from 1953 to 1969.

Only a few years ago our motherland was in a state of serious conflict and rift and was fighting brutally to destroy itself. It was forced to follow foreign leaders. It was ridiculed and declining, drawing only the international community's sympathy. As I have constantly said again and again, saving our motherland, race, and people cannot be achieved by others but only ourselves. The only magic medicine to cure our Cambodia's (?insidious) and serious sickness is nothing else but national reconciliation; national unification; the awakening of national conscience and national pride; and the determination of our people, male and female, to achieve a sacred union, the way we did in the incomparably glorious Angkor era, or nearer to us still, during the royal crusade for full independence of Cambodia in 1952 and 1953.

Thanks to the power of the [Buddhist] triple jewel, Allah, gods, angels, and the souls of former Cambodian kings, a miracle took place, namely a wondrous solution

emerged. The fruit of this solution has gradually emerged since I returned to the motherland on 14 November 1991 and was brilliantly in full view during the election of the Constituent Assembly from 23 to 28 May 1993. During that time our people most courageously participated within the framework of historic events full of lofty and noblest patriotic spirit and with resolute bravery along with the most clear-sighted decision by Cambodian people's representatives in June, July, August, and September 1993. In particular, all of this occurred because of the people's representatives of two major parties—the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC] led by Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh; and the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] led by Their Excellencies Chea Sim, Hun Sen, and Heng Samrin—the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party [BLDP] led by Samdech Son Sann, and the National Liberation Movement of Cambodia [MOLINAKA] Party.

The decision by a great number of the Cambodian people to actively take part in the 23-28 May 1993 election, despite obstacles, difficulties, and all kinds of danger, has shown the world that the race of the Angkorian Cambodians remains alive and has not perished as predicted by some parties that have only disseminated bad things about Cambodia. This is because our people have clearly shown the world that they are a people with a genuine patriotic spirit; they have a clear and correct political understanding and know their sacred duty for Cambodia's long-lasting destiny. They have also courageously decided to definitively end the suffering, hardship, misery, and misfortune that are unprecedented in the 2000 years history of Cambodia. They are determined to revive our motherland and to regain the country's honor, dignified status, and full independence.

Our people have made a turn along the path to most resolutely and decidedly steer our country away from disaster by making the 23-28 May 1993 election a full success and enabling our nation to move toward a path with justice, honor, deprived of danger, and toward glory with appropriate prestige. This is the path of liberal democracy, which is the most advanced among this doctrine in our present world. That is the path of monarchism and the return to the monarchist regime, which is the only irreplaceable symbol to ensure honor, dignity, and unity of the Cambodian nation and motherland with independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, peace, national union, and all-around progress in national construction.

Two major parties, FUNCINPEC and the CPP, the BLDP, and MOLINAKA have behaved with an awakened spirit and have risen up with a determination, which is historic for our people in 1993. They have come to power because our people, who from now will enjoy full sovereignty and be the master of the land and the destiny of Cambodia. These political parties have given me, on behalf of our respected and beloved people, full support and immense and marvelous assistance to

enable me to restore the Cambodian ship, which was going astray and sinking, into a good ship that is now traveling proudly on the calm, clear, and clean Cambodian ocean toward safe shore. Peace and prosperity, progress, and glory can be expected in the future.

Beloved compatriots, it is with unity, fraternity, national pride, optimism, and firm confidence in Cambodia's future that our people, National Assembly, and government will celebrate the three great national festivals of our kingdom, which is an age-old kingdom and one which beloved compatriots have decided to revive this year, 1993, or 2537 of the Buddhist Era. These three great festivals are the Tang Tok, the 1953 national independence, and the regatta and moon festival. Expenses involved in reviving these three great national festivals are not capricious use of the national budget because these three great national festivals help preserve our national identity among countries in the world. They help consolidate unity and national union; help awaken our conscience in assessing our glorious past and current value, and help evaluate correctly the tasks that have to be performed in the short, medium, and long term.

Our Tang Tok festival is not organized just for the people, the National Assembly, or the government to solemnly pay respect to the king. It is not just a religious festival for the longevity and happiness of the king. It is also a ceremony to pray that the power of the triple jewel, angels, and former kings bestow peace, freedom, development, and happiness with a bright future, peace, and glory for which the people have wished.

Our nation, motherland, and people have known only undescrivable suffering, hardship, misery, pain, decadence, and disgrace since the Tang Tok festival was abolished and since Queen Sisowath Kossamak Nearirat, mother of our nation, was unjustly chased out of the royal palace in 1970. The Tang Tok is also an annual exhibition to show our country's natural resources, achievements in national construction and defense, and the democratization process in the country. The Tang Tok festival is a fine show of family ties between the king and his people. At this festival the people freely and happily go and stroll in the royal palace, which is also theirs, because the king is their father.

The national independence festival—independence which we recovered fully from France in 1953—will remind all of us of the sacred united forces of our nation; between male and female; between political parties; among armed forces, militia, and volunteers; among military and civilians; young and old; and lay and religious people, uniting around the throne and the king with a strong determination to wrest back what belongs to Cambodia.

This unity is very strong and can solve national problems with marvelous results. It has forced even formidable enemies to retreat. The great and valuable lesson we have drawn from the 1952-1953 royal crusade is that this sacred unity and vigorous determination can help us

avoid bloodshed, namely war itself. Armed struggle to liberate the nation is a great deed and honor. However, the recovery of full independence for the motherland through peaceful means is even better. If we can accommodate and put together freedom and peace, this would be perfect. This would also conform with the Buddha's teaching.

In May, June, July, and September 1993, our people and clergy, FUNCINPEC, the CPP, the BLDP, MOLINAKA, and the party of General Sak Sutsakhan, along with their military components, got together by themselves and implemented the marvelous formula of the royal crusade's historic success for full independence of Cambodia. In other words, they had blessedly rallied around the father of the nation with a patriotic spirit and pledged to lead the sacred national cause to success.

This is why the 22-year-long war—which was full of hostility, hate, revenge, grudge, violence, human rights violations, and indifference to the pain, hardship, and disgrace of poor and small people, that is millions of our compatriots—was defeated in our Cambodia. The rebirth, the return to being a state having independence, sovereignty, unity, peace, and regular progress, and the 1952-1953 formula, which has been implemented by the people, the electorate, and the people's representatives in the May 1993 election, have contributed to the force that saved and steered Cambodia away from the ravine of destruction, death, and disappearance from the maps of Southeast Asia and the world.

The illumination of the 1953 independence monument is a ceremony performed to solemnly pay respect to the souls of Cambodian combatants of both sexes, who are genuine patriots and who have sacrificed their lives for the eternal existence of the Cambodian motherland. It is also the symbol and eternal and constant reminder, not only of our nation's struggle in the 1952-1953 period, but also of all the struggles that have been waged in Cambodia's past to save and defend the Cambodian nation and motherland.

The military parade is organized to recall the definitive departure of the French Union's troops and French military commanders on 9 November 1953. This parade is also organized to stress the consistent and unswerving policy of the Kingdom of Cambodia from 1953 to 1969, and from 1993 onwards, in the field of national defense, namely the peaceful coexistence with all countries. Cambodia's military policy is to have an army for self-defense only within the framework of maintaining Cambodia's genuine neutrality using Switzerland as a model—a small army but enough to defend the country and safeguard independence and territorial integrity as well as ensure internal security for the people. No foreign military bases will be allowed on national territory. Peaceful means will be used to solve disputes or conflicts that could arise with other countries.

The regatta festival is our people's solemn and happy thanks to the triple jewel, angels, and the moon for

assisting and supporting the development of national agriculture. It is also an opportunity for praying that the power of the Lord Buddha, angels, and sacred things continue to provide assistance, support, and bountiful results in the next season, better than now, so that our agriculture and peasants keep on developing.

Agriculture is the basis of the people's well-being, national development, progress in national construction, and freedom of the national economy. The freedom of the national economy is the determining factor for the freedom of national policies.

Revered venerables and clergy, beloved compatriots, with reverence, respect, and profound and great love and affection, I would like to express wholehearted thanks to all venerables and monks, and most moving thanks to all compatriots, for your great kindness and generosity in performing ceremonies, dedicating merit, and conveying wishes to me on the occasion I pass from being 71 to 72 years old; for my speedy recovery, longevity, happiness, and complete success in carrying out the new mission, that is as a king serving the motherland, the nation, religion, and our people.

In this life, as well as in the next one, I will always remember and cannot forget all the great deeds of venerables, clergy, and compatriots who have rendered justice to me and rehabilitated me. Since I ascended the throne in 1941 to this day, and until the end of my life, I have never practiced corruption and will absolutely not do so in the future. I have also never liked money, wealth, or jewelry, nor will I ever.

The only wealth I want to possess, and which is meaningful to me, is the love, trust, and justice of venerables, clergy, and compatriots for me. The venerables, clergy, and compatriots have already given me this valuable wealth. I am very delighted to have acquired it as I wished.

Before ending this message, respected and beloved venerables, clergy, and compatriots, please allow me to convey to you best wishes. May the National Assembly, the royal government, compatriots, and the people who are the master of the land, enjoy continuous great successes in the process to solve major and serious problems.

Among these major and serious problems, I would like to ask for permission from respected and beloved venerables, clergy, and compatriots to draw your attention to the three following issues:

1. The Khmer Rouge and autonomous zone. In fact this is a de facto division of our motherland.
2. Our territorial integrity, land borders, coasts, and seas that have been marked and internationally recognized from 1963 to 1969. These borders unfortunately have not yet been respected by some neighboring countries.

3. The rehabilitation of our small people who have been classified among the poorest in the world. Their agricultural problem also remains dire.

The royal government and the National Assembly of our Cambodia, please assist in raising the living standards of these poorest compatriots.

May the two supreme patriarchs, venerable Khousananda, venerable Pouthiveang, venerable Mongkoltepeacha, and the revered clergy, and all beloved compatriots, wise men, nuns, brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren enjoy the five Buddhist blessings of longevity, social prestige, happiness, strength, and enlightenment.

[Dated] Beijing 31 October 1993

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

Lao Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon Arrives

BK0411053193 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and his wife and entourage arrived in Phnom Penh, the capital city of the Kingdom of Cambodia, at 1000 local time on 4 November 1993 for an official friendly visit to the country from 4 to 7 November 1993 at the invitation of the Royal Cambodian Government [RGC] leaders. This is the first time that a high-level delegation of a neighboring country has come and visited Cambodia since the country's reinstatement of a constitutional monarchy.

At Pochentong Airport, the Lao Government leader was warmly welcomed by Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister of the RGC, and Princess Mari; H.E. Hun Sen, second prime minister, his wife, as well as other leaders, youths, civil servants, students, and diplomats from various embassies in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

It is expected that, during his four-day visit here, H.E. Khamtai Siphandon will pay a courtesy visit to H.E. Chea Sim, acting head of state and chairman of the National Assembly, and meet with Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh and His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, respectively first and second prime ministers of the RGC.

H.E. Khamtai Siphandon will also sign a joint communique and an agreement on economic, scientific, technical, and cultural cooperation.

Editorial Welcomes Visit

BK0411055393 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 3 Nov 93

[Station editorial: "Welcome Mr. Khamtai Siphandon"]

[Text] Mr. Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], will visit Cambodia on 4 November 1993. He is the very first top Asian leader to come to Cambodia since the restoration of the monarchy and the formation of a royal national government in the country.

The Lao leader's visit is a response to an invitation made by Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh and His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen when they paid an official visit to Laos at the end of July this year. Laos, which shares a common border with Cambodia, has never shown any hostility toward the Kingdom of Cambodia. The LPDR has at all times maintained the finest friendly relations with the country.

After the war in Cambodia was brought to an end and a provisional national government established, Cambodia's leaders, Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh and Mr. Hun Sen, made their first visit to Laos, followed by visits to the Kingdom of Thailand and the SRV. Laos continues to maintain a communist regime, that is, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party is leading the country exclusively. Nevertheless, Laos has adopted a market-economic system, a broad reform that Lao leaders have been implementing since the middle of the eighties. Laos has established contacts with the outside world—first, Thailand, then the PRC. Laos also played an important role in ending the war in Cambodia and was an ally of Mr. Hun Sen's regime in the former State of Cambodia.

After the collapse of the Pol Pot regime, the LPDR was the second country, after Vietnam, to establish diplomatic relations with the Hun Sen regime in March 1979. After the formation of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia in June 1993, Laos was the sixth country that accredited an ambassador to Cambodia. Now, it appears that the two countries have no complicated problems—such as border problems, the Khmer Rouge, or illegal immigrants—that need solutions.

During the Cambodian Government's visit to the LPDR, the two countries' leaders focussed their attention only on the expansion of economic, trade, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation. According to some diplomats of the royal government, Lao Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon's visit at this juncture is aimed at further discussing the issue of cooperation, especially in the field of communications and transport. In the past, Laos requested the use of Cambodia's communications networks to link itself to the sea, thereby facilitating its national economic circulation.

The finest relations, both political and economic, between the two poorest countries constitute an encouragement for Cambodian leaders to solve complicated problems with the other two countries whose borders are also adjacent to Cambodia. For this reason, the fine relations with Laos will provide Cambodia with a good friend, who is a longtime neighbor, for the future. This is a sincere and genuine, friendly relationship.

The Cambodian people across the country wholeheartedly welcome Lao Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon's visit to Cambodia.

Chea Sim Receives Australian Senators

BK0411010093 Phnom Penh AKP in French 1050 GMT 2 Nov 93

[Text] Phnom Penh 2 Nov (AKP)—Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, received a delegation of the Australian Senate, led by Jim McKiernan, in Phnom Penh on 29 October.

Chea Sim informed his Australian guests of the results of the recent first session of the Cambodian National Assembly, which elected the leader of this legislative institution and its two vice chairmen.

The success of this session, which, according to Chea Sim, was attributed in particular to the clear-sighted leadership of the Kingdom of Cambodia's king, His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk, moreover was marked by the establishment of nine assembly commissions and the vote of confidence for the political program and the composition of the Royal Government of Cambodia.

The National Assembly chairman stressed to the Australian delegation the need for aid, which is necessary for rebuilding and developing Cambodia. He specifically thanked the Australian Government for supporting the Cambodian people and for actively contributing to the peace process in Cambodia.

Jim McKiernan, who visited Cambodia for the first time, pledged, upon returning, to report his findings to the Senate in order to seek aid for Cambodia. He handed over a letter from the Australian Senate to Chea Sim congratulating the latter in his election to the post of chairman of the Cambodian National Assembly and inviting him to make an official visit to Australia.

Heng Samrin Appointed King's 'High Adviser'

BK0311061793 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 3 Nov 93

[Royal decree of His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, King of Cambodia: read by announcer]

[Text] We, Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, King of the Kingdom of Cambodia, appoint His Excellency Heng Samrin Personal High Adviser to the King of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Decreed on 31 October 1993

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

Commentary on Proposed Talks With Khmer Rouge

BK0211092393 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 1 Nov 93

[Commentary: "Officially, It Is Illegal But the Door Remains Open"]

[Text] According to the political program of the Royal Government of Cambodia [RGC], adopted by the National Assembly on the morning of 29 October 1993, any Armed Forces and institutions outside the legal government's control are considered illegitimate and illegal. This statement also shows that Cambodian territory is one that cannot be divided by anyone. There is only one royal government, including a single military force called the Khmer Royal Armed forces [KRAF]. The essence of this official political program is aimed at the obstinate Khmer Rouge group. It can also guard against any act aimed at splitting the country or setting up separate administrative and military structures.

However, it is expected that the last legal and political pressure is to decide the future of the Khmer Rouge who have not yet shown any realistic stance toward conditions put forward by the royal government. The RGC with Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh as first prime minister and His Excellency Hun Sen as second prime minister has adopted firm but flexible measures toward the Khmer Rouge.

The firmness is that if the Khmer Rouge continue to obstinately and illegally control a small part of the territory and to carry out military activities affecting the lives and property of the people, public property, and natural resources, the royal government has the duty to respond appropriately to end these acts. The flexibility aspect is a peaceful solution without the use of force against one another, and the royal government is ready to talk with Khmer Rouge leaders to settle the problem.

It is known that the royal government has welcomed Khmer Rouge members to the fold of the nation and society and have given them ranks and the role of government advisers provided they fulfill the following conditions first: officially recognize the Constitution and the royal government; end hostile activities both military and political; and unconditionally surrender to the royal government the troops and zones they control.

However, in response to this, apart from (?hastily) recognizing the Constitution, the Khmer Rouge have, so far, not yet recognized the royal government and, furthermore, consider the government a puppet. The Khmer Rouge also have not fulfilled the royal government's conditions on other points. Analysts have envisaged that the door the royal government left open has been closed by the Khmer Rouge themselves who grossly raised the condition of exchanging their zones for past Cambodian territory now in Vietnam, which was decided by the 1953 Geneva Conference.

Furthermore, the fact that the Khmer Rouge have asked for talks from lower levels upwards is just a pretext to play for time, prolong the people's suffering, and hinder national restoration and reconstruction so that they can reconsolidate their forces.

It is difficult to assess the positive aspect of leaving the door open. Some think that this seems to have slightly encouraged the Khmer Rouge. Others, however, think that this is a flexible policy of the new royal government. Prince Kromluong has indicated that the time to leave the door open cannot be extended for long and that even the Khmer Rouge issue is no longer a priority.

What people have witnessed so far is that the Khmer Rouge continue to launch vigorous armed attacks against zones of the royal government in the northwest and central parts of the country. People are now waiting to see whether the idea of Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the measures of the royal government to settle problems with the Khmer Rouge will be successful or not.

NADK Spokesman Denies Shelling Phnom Penh

BK0411023393 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 Nov 93

["Denial" by the spokesman of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea; dated 3 November 1993; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. The National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] was accused on 31 October of firing two artillery shells on Phnom Penh on the night of 31 October. The NADK spokesman vehemently rejects the accusation. The NADK had nothing to do with the shelling.

2. In fact, the so-called shelling on Phnom Penh, like the death of 14 people in the Royal Palace on the night of 31 October when the king's birthday was celebrated, was premeditated by the communist Vietnamese forces and the power they have propped up for the purpose of humiliating and opposing the traditional national celebration, thereby directly opposing the throne.

3. It is worth recalling that the NADK has never waged war to violate any country; within Cambodia, it has never attacked any national resistance force, either. Instead, the NADK has strived to promote national solidarity and conduct a struggle to prevent the downfall of the Cambodian nation and race.

War—which continues to blaze in Cambodia, causing ruin, separation, and suffering to the Cambodian nation and people permanently—has been waged by the communist Vietnamese and the power they have shored up and vivified by the alliance, not the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK]; it is not a battle between Cambodians either.

4. The PDK has repeatedly proposed that talks of all Cambodian leaders be held to reach national reconciliation in compliance with His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk's fine advice, clearly stating that national reconciliation and national unification are sacred and represent the real cure for all problems of our nation.

[Dated] 3 November

[Signed] NADK spokesman

Indonesia

Suharto, Dutch Minister Discuss Investment

BK0211113593 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 25 Oct 93 p 1

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—President Suharto is inviting the Netherlands to increase investments in Indonesia and to improve trade relations in spite of his decision last year to halt Dutch development aid.

"The president wants the Netherlands to be more active in investments in Indonesian businesses, particularly in sectors where the Dutch have strength of mastery," Minister of Finance Mari'e Muhammad told reporters after accompanying his Dutch counterpart, Wim Kok, during a courtesy call on Suharto at the Merdeka Palace here on Saturday.

Mari'e quoted Suharto as emphasizing that "the investment cooperation should be based on mutual respect without interference into each other's internal affairs and for the benefit of both countries."

The Indonesian Government announced the surprising decision in March last year that Indonesia would no longer receive any development aid from the Netherlands, which had used it as a tool to intimidate Indonesia over human rights issues. The government also dissolved the Dutch-chaired Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia (IGGI), a group of creditor countries and institutions, and replaced it with the Consultative Group for Indonesia (CGI), which is led by the World Bank.

The Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) records that Dutch investment commitments approved by the government reached U.S.\$2.4 billion as of April 30 this year.

Wim Kok, who arrived here Thursday for a four-day visit, said that besides investment, the Netherlands also wants intensified cooperation with Indonesia in trade, science, education, cultural exchanges, and technology.

Intensified cooperation is important because "on the one hand, Indonesian people need results of further progress and on the other and, the Netherlands, being part of the European Community, also wants to use the possibilities of good contact with Indonesia to be a gateway for Indonesia to Europe," he pointed out.

Kok also expressed his hope: "That in the future, not only bilateral relations between Indonesia and the Netherlands will be good, but also, in our own way, to promote further North-South cooperation, which will be very important to global population."

Responding to questions on the possibility for the Netherlands to provide export credit for Indonesia, Kok said he had discussed the matter with Minister Mari'e Muhammad. "But today with the President, there was no further discussion on that."

Government To Open Consulate in South Africa

BK031115393 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0924 GMT 3 Nov 93

[Text] Jakarta, Nov. 3 (OANA-ANTARA)—The African National Congress (ANC) has hailed Indonesia's decision to open a consulate in South Africa which is to smoothen [as received] relations between both countries, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas has said.

The minister made the statement to journalists after accompanying Chairman Allan Boesak of the South African Institution for Peace and Justice who paid a courtesy call on President Suharto at Bina Graha Wednesday morning.

During the meeting, Boesak handed over a note of ANC Chairman Nelson Mandela to President Suharto.

Boesak's visit to Indonesia at the invitation of the foreign minister is made because of Indonesia's wish to tighten relationship with the ANC and the fact that Boesak is Mandela's close assistant.

South Africa plans to hold national elections in 1994 on a just and non-racial basis, thus enabling both black and white communities to cast their votes.

"Certainly the black majority [words indistinct] as they are under the banners of ANC as the biggest political party," Alatas said. Therefore, he had invited Boesak to come over here to cultivate mutual understanding between both countries' leaders.

Boesak is an origin of South Capetown where many people of Indonesian descents still live. In the past, the region was used by (?the Netherlands) as a colony for exiled Indonesian freedom fighters where they had to do forced labour.

A grave of an Indonesian in the name of Sheikh Yusuf Makassar is now in that region. In 1994, a celebration will be held in South Africa to observe the struggle waged by this Makassar (now Ujungpandang) fighter 300 years ago against the colonial rulers.

In present days, terms derived from the Indonesian language like "keramat" (sacred), "terima kasih" (thank you), and "pisang" (banana) still exist in Capetown.

Minister Announces New Deregulation Package

BK0211094393 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 25 Oct 93 p 1

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The government has expedited investment licensing procedures and eased investment restrictions to enable Indonesia to better compete for foreign investment funds with other developing countries.

The adjustments are part of a package of deregulatory measures announced by Coordinating Minister for Economy and Finance Saleh Affif at a press conference attended by eight other ministers on Saturday.

State Minister for Investment/Chairman of Investment Planning Board (BKPM) Sanyoto Sastrowardoyo said the new procedures would significantly reduce the time needed for obtaining investment licenses to 17 days from 42 because investors are no longer required to produce recommendation letters from provincial governors when applying for licenses from the investment board.

Investors were previously required to have a number of recommendation letters from both authorities at the provincial and regency levels in order to obtain permits for land appropriation and clearance and building. Investors also had to procure public nuisance clearances and permits based on environmental impact analyses before starting their projects. They could not begin their projects without such permits even though they had received licenses from the investment board.

Sanyoto said the permits for land appropriation and clearance are now abolished.

Under the new procedures, investors are only required to obtain permits for the construction of their buildings and for the location of their projects.

"The significant factor in the new procedures is that the processing of such permits will no longer pass through many bureaucratic layers at provincial and regency levels," he said.

The location permit is now directly issued by the agrarian office at municipal or regency levels, while the building permit is also issued by the public works office at the municipal or regency levels without passing through the provincial administration.

Issuance of building licenses and land certificates, which was previously made by the agrarian office at the provincial level, now are handled by the agrarian office at the regency level.

Sanyoto said licenses for the use of a plot of land less than 100 hectares in size are issued by the agrarian office at the provincial level and those for a plot larger than 100 hectares are issued by the agrarian minister.

Minister of Industry Tunky Ariwibowo said the complicated licensing process at the provincial level was among the major hindrances to the establishment of new industrial plants in the country.

He said investors can now set up factories as soon as they receive licenses from the investment board. "They are for example, allowed to start the construction of their factories even though they have not yet received a building permit," he said, adding that the building permit can be issued later after an inspection by accredited supervisors ascertains that the building has fulfilled all the requirements.

Tunky said investors establishing factories within industrial estates are no longer required to obtain permits for location, buildings, and public nuisance.

Sanyoto said the government also decided to ease restrictions related to the foreign ownership of investment projects to make the country's business climate more attractive. He said foreign investors are allowed to own 100 percent of shares of companies located in bonded or export processing zones within the first 10 years of their commercial production. Those investors should transfer part of their shares to local investors beginning in the 11th year of commercial operations through the capital market or private placement. The divestment should reach at least 20 percent of the total shares in the 20th year. The 100-percent ownership was previously limited to only five years after commercial production.

Foreign investors are also allowed to own 100 percent of the shares in companies located in remote areas such as Bengkulu, Jambi, Kalimantan and eastern provinces for the first 10 years of commercial production. The divestment of shares to local investors should reach a minimum level of 51 percent in the 20th year. The divestment could be carried out through the capital market or direct placement. The 100-percent foreign ownership in companies in remote areas was previously limited only to five years of commercial production and the divestment to local investors should reach a level of at least 20 percent within 20 years.

The new ruling also allows wholly-foreign owned companies with a paid up capital of only U.S. \$2 million if the firms produce raw and intermediate materials or components for domestic industries. The share divestment to local investors should begin in the 11th year of commercial operation and should reach 51 percent in the 20th year. The divestment can be made through the capital market or direct placement. There are no restrictions set for the location of such companies.

Foreign investors are also allowed to own 100 percent of shares of companies with a paid-up capital of at least \$50 million within the first 10 years of commercial production. The share divestment should also start in the 11th year and should reach 51 percent in the 20th year. Previously, the full foreign ownership was limited only

until five years of the commercial production. Foreigners are allowed to establish companies under this category at the location of their choice.

Contrary to the expectations of business circles and economists, the long-awaited package fell short of allowing foreigners to own more than 49 percent of shares listed on the capital market.

Laos

Further Reportage on SRV President's Visit

Hanoi Radio on Meeting Khamtai

BK0311043593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 2 Nov 93

[Text] On the afternoon of 1 November, Comrade Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee, cordially received in Vientiane Comrade Le Duc Anh, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Political Bureau and president of the SRV, and his entourage now on an official friendship visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Comrade Khamtai Siphandon inquired about the health of Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh, and other comrades who are advisers to our party Central Committee and wished them good health.

The comrade welcomed the official friendship visit of President Le Duc Anh, his wife, and other members in the Vietnamese delegation, saying that this visit will contribute to consolidating and further developing the traditional relations of friendship, special solidarity, and all-around cooperation between Laos and Vietnam.

Comrade Khamtai Siphandon briefed President Le Duc Anh on the major achievements recorded by the Lao people in their efforts to renovate comprehensively their socioeconomic development policy lines for the period 1993-2000. The comrade affirmed: With the country's abundant natural resources and with the people's tradition of working diligently and creatively, led by the LPRP and assisted by fraternal and friendly countries, the multiethnic Lao people will be able to make steady headway on their chosen path.

Comrade Khamtai Siphandon expressed the wish that the relations of special friendship and multifarious cooperation between the two parties, two states, and two peoples of Laos and Vietnam will develop ever more beautifully and will last forever.

President Le Duc Anh passed on the best regards from various comrades such as Do Muoi, Vo Van Kiet, and Nong Duc Manh to Comrade Khamtai Siphandon and other leading comrades of the Lao party and state.

President Le Duc Anh congratulated the party, state, and multiethnic people of Laos on the great achievements they had recorded in carrying out their comprehensive reform policy set forth at the Fifth LPRP Congress, saying that this will create solid premises for their bid to build a prosperous country and to bring about a plentiful and happy life for the multiethnic people of Laos.

President Le Duc Anh also briefed Chairman Khamtai Siphandon on the initial results obtained by Vietnam in the renovation process, saying that the political situation has been stabilized, the economy is on a growing trend, and the welfare of cadres and people has been improved.

President Le Duc Anh pointed out: In view of the current complex world situation, it is now more important than ever before that the relations of special friendship and all-around cooperation between the two countries should continue to be consolidated, renovated, and developed with better qualities and higher results. The party, state, and people of Vietnam will strive to do their utmost to preserve and foster the exemplary, steadfast, and pure relations of special friendship between Vietnam and Laos.

Hanoi Radio on Official Meetings

BK0311114993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 2 Nov 93

[Text] According to a VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Vientiane, President Le Duc Anh and other members of the Vietnamese delegation paid courtesy visits to Comrades Souphanouvong and Phoumi Vongvichit, advisers to the Lao People's Revolutionary Central Committee, on the afternoon of 2 November.

President Le Duc Anh conveyed the greetings and regards of Comrades General Secretary Do Muoi, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, and National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh to Comrades Souphanouvong and Phoumi Vongvichit. The president stressed that the party, state, and people of Vietnam would do their best to safeguard and develop the traditional friendly relations and the special solidarity between Vietnam and Laos, the relationship that President Ho Chi Minh had tirelessly fostered. President Le Duc Anh was joyous to note that Comrade Souphanouvong had become healthier. In a warm and friendly atmosphere, President Le Duc Anh invited Comrade Souphanouvong and his wife to visit Vietnam.

While conversing warmly with Comrade Le Duc Anh, Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit welcomed the official visit of the president to Laos. He thanked the president and the delegation for reserving time and paying him a visit. Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit recalled the fine memory of the special Vietnam-Laos relationship in the past two resistance periods. The comrade revealed that he was writing a memoir on the glorious years that marked the solidarity between the two brotherly countries and

hoped that his work would help future generations remember, protect, and develop the special friendly Vietnam-Laos relationship.

Hanoi Radio Reports on Activities

BK0311120193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 2 Nov 93

[Text] President Le Duc Anh and his wife visited a number of socioeconomic establishments in Vientiane on 2 November. Comrade Somsavat Lengsavat, Lao foreign minister, and Comrade Mounkeo Olaboun, secretary of party committee and chief of Vientiane Province, escorted the president.

The delegation visited the famous Nam Ngung Hydroelectric Plant and (Soun Hong) tribal village, a pilot tribal village of the movement to build new-life tribal villages for multiethnic Lao people.

Hanoi Radio Notes Courtesy Calls

BK0311124393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 2 Nov 93

[Text] The delegation representing the Lao-Vietnamese Friendship Association led by Comrade Maisouk Saisompheng, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and president of the Lao-Vietnamese Friendship Association, paid a courtesy visit to President Le Duc Anh and other members of the Vietnamese delegation who were on an official friendship visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] on the afternoon of 2 November at the Presidential Palace.

After listening to a brief report by Comrade Maisouk Saisompheng on the activities of the Lao-Vietnamese Friendship Association in past years, President Le Duc Anh praised the association for its contributions to the enhancement of understanding and trust between the two peoples. President Le Duc Anh said: During the two resistance periods, our two countries always had been shoulder to shoulder and shared weal and woe and had thus nurtured an invaluable relationship with which no gold or jewelry could compare. There have been many complicated changes in the world, but the special friendship and solidarity between our two countries will live eternally because our two peoples are rich in gratitude and loyalty.

The president hoped the friendship association would continue to develop its valuable activities to contribute to preserving the precious relationship.

President Le Duc Anh later received the delegation of the standing committee of the Vietnamese Nationals Association in Vientiane led by the association's president, Mr. Tran Van Chuong. The visitors were paying a courtesy visit to President Le Duc Anh, his wife, and other members of the Vietnamese delegation.

During these meetings, President Le Duc Anh presented some gifts of art and craft items produced by the clever hands of our craftsmen to the Lao-Vietnamese Friendship Association and the Vietnamese Nationals Association in Vientiane.

Joint Statement Issued 3 Nov

BK0311140993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 3 Nov 93

[“Joint Statement” issued in Vientiane on 3 November]

[Text] 1. At the invitation of Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], Comrade Le Duc Anh, president of the SRV, paid an official friendship visit to the LPDR from 1 to 3 November 1993.

2. During their visit to Laos, President Le Duc Anh and all comrades in the delegation laid a wreath at the Monument of Unknown Combatants and visited a number of economic and cultural establishments in Vientiane Capital and Vientiane Province. President Le Duc Anh was accorded a warm and cordial welcome by the people and leadership at all localities he visited.

3. Comrade Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee, welcomed and held a conversation with Comrade President Le Duc Anh in an atmosphere of absolute accord. Chairman Khamtai Siphandon wholeheartedly hailed the official friendship visit to Laos by President Le Duc Anh at this time and stressed that the outcome of the visit would contribute to consolidating and strengthening the relations of friendship, special solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation between the two parties, states, and peoples of Laos and Vietnam.

President Le Duc Anh paid calls on Comrade Souphanouvong and Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit, advisers to the LPRP Central Committee, and the family of the late President Kaysone Phomvihane.

President Nouhak Phoumsavan and President Le Duc Anh met and held talks under an atmosphere of comradeship and fraternal friendship. Attending the talks for the Lao side were Comrade Somsavat Lengsavat, foreign affairs minister; Comrade Thongdam Chanthaphon, head of the presidential office; Comrade Sompadit Volasane, minister of trade; Comrade Leuan Sombounkhan, deputy head of the LPRP Central Committee office; and Comrade Khamphet Phengmeuan, LPDR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the SRV. On the Vietnamese side, Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam, foreign affairs minister; Comrade Nguyen Viet Dung, minister and head of the presidential office; Comrade Le Van Kiet, minister of commerce; and Comrade Bui Van Thanh, SRV ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the LPDR attended.

4. At the talks, the two sides informed each other of the situation in each country, reviewed the tasks drawn up in

accordance with the agreement reached by the high-level leadership of the two countries spelled out in the Laos-Vietnam joint statement dated 4 April 1993, exchanged views on various measures aimed at consolidating and developing the relations of friendship, special solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation between the two countries. The two presidents exchanged views on international and regional issues of mutual interest.

5. Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan wholeheartedly hailed and highly assessed the most important initial achievements attained by the Vietnamese state and people in the tasks of renovation and sincerely hoped the fraternal Vietnamese state and people score many more yet greater successes in order to fulfill and translate into reality the targets outlined in the resolution adopted by the Seventh Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], honorably contributing to the common cause of all nations in the world for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress and to the trend toward peace, friendship, cooperation, and development in Southeast Asia.

6. President Le Duc Anh wholeheartedly hailed and highly assessed the achievements made by the Lao state and multiethnic people in the tasks of building, defending, and developing the country and sincerely hoped that the fraternal Lao state and people continue to attain yet greater successes in order to translate into reality the resolution adopted at the Fifth LPRP Congress, thereby building Laos into a country with peace, independence, democracy, and prosperity and for the happiness of the multiethnic Lao people and for peace, stability, friendship, cooperation, and development in Southeast Asia and the world.

7. President Nouhak Phoumsavan and President Le Duc Anh were satisfied to see that since the visit to Vietnam by Comrade Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the LPRP Central Committee and prime minister of the LPDR, in April 1993, the two sides have actively put into practice the many agreements reached by the high-level leaders of the two countries and the agreement on economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation signed between the two governments on 26 April 1993. The relations of friendship, special solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation between the two countries have been incessantly developed and restructured for higher efficiency in accordance with the spirit of the 15 October 1991, 16 August 1992, and 4 April 1993 joint statements.

The two sides exchanged views on the direction and practical measures aimed at promoting cooperation in all fields in accordance with the principle of respect for each other's independence and sovereignty, equality, mutual benefits, and mutual assistance on the basis of fraternal spirit, thus bringing about high efficiency in conformity with the new status of the relations between the two countries.

The two sides agreed to allow the services concerned of the two countries to continue exchanging views and to

agree on various issues in detail in accordance with the said direction. The two sides reaffirmed the determination of the two parties and peoples to continue safeguarding, preserving, and increasing the relations of friendship and special solidarity between Laos and Vietnam for they conform to the fundamental and lasting interests of the people in each country and to the interest of peace, friendship, cooperation, and development in Southeast Asia.

8. President Nhouhak Phoumsavan and President Le Duc Anh unanimously agreed that the complicated world situation rapidly is changing. Under this circumstance, it is more important than ever that all states strive and endeavor together to create an equitable and logical international order in which all states, big or small, rich or poor, enjoy the same rights and equality and cooperate with one another for the development and prosperity of each state and for the cause of peace, stability, and friendship in the region and in the world.

The two sides hailed the new steps of development in the relations among the countries in Southeast Asia and expressed satisfaction with the development of relations by each country with each ASEAN country in particular and with the ASEAN in general, regarding it as an important contribution to turning Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation.

On this occasion, the two sides reaffirmed their consistent policies to continue broadening the relations of good neighborliness and equal cooperation for mutual benefits with all countries in this region and in the world.

9. The two sides hailed the fruits of the evolution of peace and national reconciliation in Cambodia, which gave a glimpse of hope to and facilitated the Cambodian people to build the Kingdom of Cambodia into country of peace, independence, democracy, unification, neutrality, nonalignment, and prosperity. As close neighbors of Cambodia, the two sides reiterated the readiness to broaden cooperation with the Kingdom of Cambodia on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, equal cooperation for mutual benefits, and resolving bilateral issues through negotiation, aimed at building the neighborly relations and traditional friendship between Laos and Cambodia and between Vietnam and Cambodia in the interests of each country and of the region.

10. President Le Duc Anh expressed his sincere thanks to the party, state, and multiethnic Lao people for according a warm and intimate welcome to the delegation during the visit. He extended an invitation to President Nhouhak Phoumsavan to pay an official friendship visit to the SRV. President Nhouhak Phoumsavan gladly accepted the invitation. The time and date of the visit will later be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

[Dated] Vientiane, 3 November 1993

[Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Radio in Vietnamese at 1430 GMT on 3 November broadcasts the eight-minute text of the Laos-Vietnam joint communique issued at the end of SRV President Le Duc Anh's visit to Laos. The Hanoi radio text has been compared and found to be identical with the Vientiane Radio version.]

VNA Summarizes Joint Statement

BK0311150193 Hanoi VNA in English 1428 GMT
3 Nov 93

[All quotation remarks as received]

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 3—President Le Duc Anh, his wife and his party left Vientiane today, concluding their three-day official visit to Laos. The Vietnamese president and his party were seen off by President Nhouhak Phoumsavan and his wife, and other senior officials of Laos.

At the farewell ceremony, President Nhouhak Phoumsavan reaffirmed that President Le Duc Anh's visit to Laos has a very important significance, marking a new step of constant development of the special friendship and solidarity and the all-sided cooperation between Vietnam and Laos, which is regarded as one of the decisive factors for the success of the two countries' revolutions in the past and as a precious legacy handed down to us by the late President Ho Chi Minh. The Lao president asked President Le Duc Anh to convey his best regards to party General Secretary Do Muoi, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh. For his part, President Le Duc Anh expressed his thanks to the party, state and people of Laos for their warm welcome and stressed that the party, state and people of Vietnam are determined to do their best to foster the Vietnam-Laos traditional friendship and all-sided cooperation and make it ever lasting.

This morning, President Le Duc Anh and his party paid a courtesy visit to the Vietnamese Embassy in Laos. On this occasion a Vietnamese-Lao joint communique was signed in Vientiane today.

The joint communique said among other things: 'While in Laos, President Le Duc Anh was warmly received by Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LPRP) who stressed that the result of President Le Duc Anh's visit will be a contribution to further consolidating and developing the traditional friendship and special solidarity and all-sided cooperation between the two parties, states and people of Vietnam and Laos'.

'During a reception President Nhouhak Phoumsavan highly appreciated initial but important achievements recorded by the Vietnamese state and people in their renovation cause and expressed his hope that the Vietnamese state and people would gain greater success aimed at achieving the targets set by the seventh congress of the communist party, thus making worthy contributions to the common cause of the people in the world for

the sake of peace, national independence, democracy and social progress and to the tendency for peace, friendship, cooperation and development in Southeast Asia'.

The communique went on: 'The two sides hailed new steps in the development of the relations among the countries in Southeast Asia and noted with satisfaction at the progress in the relations between each of our country and each ASEAN country in particular and the ASEAN in general, considering those as important contributions to the building of a Southeast Asia of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation.

'The two sides welcomed the results obtained in the process of peace and national reconciliation in Cambodia which open favourable prospects for the Cambodian people to build their country of peace, independence, unification, neutrality, non-alignment and prosperity'.

'President Le Duc Anh invited Chairman Nhouak Phoumsavan to visit Vietnam. The Lao chairman accepted the invitation with pleasure. The visit's time will be agreed upon through diplomatic channel', the communique said.

Concludes Visit, Departs 3 Nov

BK0311062593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 3 Nov 93

[Text] This morning, Le Duc Anh, president of the SRV, together with his wife and delegation, left Vientiane for home by a special plane after ending a gloriously successful three-day official friendship visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] at the invitation of Nhouak Phoumsavan, president of the LPDR. A farewell ceremony for President Le Duc Anh, his wife, and the delegation was held at the Ho Kham hall of the Presidential Office in Vientiane capital at 1000.

On this occasion, SRV President Le Duc Anh thanked President Nhouak Phoumsavan and his wife for their warm welcome. He also invited President Nhouak Phoumsavan to pay a visit to the SRV at an appropriate time. President Nhouak Phoumsavan accepted the invitation with pleasure.

LPDR President Nhouak Phoumsavan thanked President Le Duc Anh and his delegation for their visit to Laos. He wished President Le Duc Anh, his wife, and delegation a safe trip home.

During the visit to Laos, SRV President Le Duc Anh met with LPDR President Nhouak Phoumsavan and visited some production establishments in Vientiane Province.

Hanoi Radio on End of Visit

BK0311133493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 3 Nov 93

[Text] On 3 November, President Le Duc Anh, his wife, and comrade members of the delegation left Vientiane

and successfully concluded the official friendly visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. President Nhouak Phoumsavan, his wife, and many leading cadres of the Lao party and government came to the Presidential Palace to bid farewell to the president, his wife, and comrade members of the delegation.

President Nhouak Phoumsavan, once again, affirmed that the visit to the LPDR of President Le Duc Anh is of very great significance. It marked a further step in the development of the special friendship, solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation between the two peoples of Laos and Vietnam. The special Vietnam-Lao relationship was a decisive factor which brought victories to the two countries in the past and was a valuable asset we inherited from President Ho Chi Minh.

President Nhouak Phoumsavan also asked President Le Duc Anh to convey his greetings and wishes of good health to Comrades General Secretary Do Muoi, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, and National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh.

In an atmosphere warmed by the Lao-Vietnamese brotherly friendship, President Le Duc Anh cordially expressed his thanks for the warm hospitality that the Lao party, state, and the multiethnic Lao people extended to the delegation during the visit. He also stressed that the Vietnamese party, state and people will do their utmost to foster the traditional friendship, solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation between the two peoples of Vietnam and Laos so that the relationship will live strongly forever.

At the conclusion of the visit, the two side issued a Vietnamese-Lao joint communique. The text of the communique will be aired later tonight.

Reportage on SRV Army Delegation's Visit

BK0311144793 Hanoi VNA in English 1341 GMT 3 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov 3—A delegation of the General Political Department of the People's Army of Vietnam led by Sr. Lt. Gen. [Senior Lieutenant General] Le Kha Phieu, secretary of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee and head of the department, has paid a week-long visit to Laos.

The delegation was received in Vientiane by Sr. Lt. Gen. Siphon Phalikhan, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, deputy minister of defence and head of the General Political Department of the Lao People's Army.

Gen. Phieu and his party held talks with a delegation of the General Political Department of the Lao People's Army, and visited a number of Army institutions and units, cultural and economic establishments in Laos.

The Vietnamese Army officials paid a courtesy visit to Chairman of the party Central Committee Khamtai Siphandon. The Lao party leader expressed his wish that

the two general political departments as well as the two armies, which had been attached to each other over the past several decades, would have closer relations and strive together to promote the special relationship between the two countries.

The Vietnamese Army delegation also visited Sr. Lt. Gen. Choummali Sai-gnason, party Politburo member and minister of defence.

Philippines

Government, MNLF Agree To Discuss Cease-Fire

BK0311083393 Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network in Tagalog 0500 GMT 3 Nov 93

[Text] The government and Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) peace panels have agreed to discuss the issue of a cease-fire, which will be implemented in Mindanao. The two panels are now on their ninth day of talks in Jakarta, Indonesia. According to former Ambassador Manuel Yan, government panel head, he is happy that the proposal to discuss the cease-fire issue originated from the MNLF panel.

Meanwhile, the MNLF panel explained that the cease-fire is just in conformity with the provisions of the Tripoli Agreement. A committee was formed under the chairmanship of Congressman Eduardo Ermita to discuss the cease-fire issue.

Panel To View Constitution Changes

BK0311092193 Manila PNA in English 0439 GMT 3 Nov 93

[Text] Jakarta, Indonesia, 3 November (OANA/PNA)—Discussions for amendments to the 1987 Philippine Constitution dominated today's peace negotiations between the Philippine Government and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) at the Hotel Indonesia here.

MNLF Chairman and Chief Negotiator Nur Misuari told Filipino reporters Tuesday afternoon, the constitutional amendments are matters of necessity to remove obstacles in the peace process.

Misuari referred in particular to the constitutional provision on the creation of autonomous regions in the country on which the establishment of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) was made.

The MNLF has consistently denied the recognition of the ARMM which covers only four provinces in Mindanao, and insisted on the original Tripoli Agreement provision calling for 13 provinces in the southern Philippines for inclusion in the Mindanao Autonomy area.

Patrol Procedures Established With Indonesia

BK0111092693 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 29 Oct 93 pp 1, 8

[Text] The governments of the Philippines and Indonesia have agreed to intensify maritime patrol on their border crossing as they established procedures on the movement of Filipinos and Indonesians on the border crossing to prevent intrusions and illegal poaching in their respective waters.

In a report to General Lisandro C. Abadia, Armed Forces chief of staff, Major General Thelmo Cunanan said the establishment of new procedures on maritime patrol on the Philippine-Indonesian border was based on an agreement reached by President Ramos and President Suharto during the former's recent visit to Indonesia.

The two leaders had earlier proposed a wider agreement between the two countries on issues pertaining to border security and economic development.

Cunanan, Southern Command chief and concurrent chairman of the Philippine border committee, led a 25-man delegation at the 15th Philippine-Indonesia Border Committee Chairmen's Conference in Ujung, Pandang, Indonesia last Monday.

During the three-day conference, Cunanan said that both parties agreed to establish a coordinated communication linkage, enhance tactical maritime patrols through the use of aircraft and adopt measures for the expeditious release of apprehended persons, water craft and cargoes in "force majeure" cases.

Committee members also stressed the need to facilitate humanitarian aid to people living in the border areas.

Roundup of Rebel Activities for 23-29 Oct

BK0211055893

[Editorial Report] The following is a roundup of reports of Philippine rebel activities from Philippine media monitored by Bangkok Bureau between 23 and 29 October. Source information is given in parentheses at the end of each item.

23-27 October

No fileworthy items monitored.

28 October

Two separate skirmishes erupted on Monday and Tuesday, leaving 22 people killed, 13 others wounded and driving at least 3,000 Muslim and Christian settlers to nearby safer places. The Monday incident occurred when some 50 suspected guerrillas of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) staged a dawn attack and strafed houses in a village in Columbio, Sultan Kudarat, killing 10 persons, wounding eight others and carting away 10 work animals. The same suspected MILF rebels raided another village in Columbio, but were repulsed by avenging residents backed by militiamen and Army troopers in a three-hour gunbattle. The Tuesday firefight

left 12, including 6 rebels, slain and four civilians including a pregnant woman wounded. (Manila MANILA STANDARD in English p 5)

29 October

No fileworthy items monitored.

Thailand

Deputy Labor Minister To Visit Libya

BK0411021593 Bangkok THE NATION in English
4 Nov 93 p A9

[Text] Deputy Labour Minister Phaithun Kaeothong is expected to travel to Libya in an effort to ensure that it does not lay off thousands of Thai workers following a recent crackdown on job placement agents in Bangkok suspected of sending workers to alleged chemical or nuclear weapons plants there. Labour ministry sources said Phaithun was awaiting the outcome of lower-level negotiations between a Thai government delegation and Libyan authorities before leaving secretly for Tripoli.

Interior Minister and Labour Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut said he believed the Libyan government would not take the punitive action against Thai workers in the country now that the negotiations were underway.

"But the Labour Ministry is fully prepared to handle any consequences of a mass layoff of Thais in Libya," Gen Chawalit said.

Sources said a meeting chaired by Chawalit at the Labour Ministry yesterday agreed that Thailand should make use of its leverage as a member of the Non-Aligned Movement in the talks with the Libyan government.

"Although Thailand and Libya do not have direct diplomatic ties, we both belong to the Non-Aligned Movement," one of the sources said.

On Tuesday, Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said Thailand's crackdown on job placement agents suspected of supplying workers for chemical weapons plants in Libya was in line with an international convention against chemical weapons.

Editorial Criticizes Policy With Libya, U.S.

BK0411095893 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai
4 Nov 93 p 8

[Editorial: "Thailand, Libya, and the United States"]

[Text] The Thai Government, particularly the Foreign and Interior Ministries, cannot blame anyone but itself for the expulsion of Thai workers from Libya. The Thai Consulate in Greece, which is in charge of Thai workers in Libya, notified the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry that the Libyan Government has decided to expel 2,000 to 3,000 Thai workers in Rabta Township out of the country and ordered the Korean (Dong-a) Consortium Company to lay off some 5,000 Thai employees in Libya

and take them out of the country as quick as possible. Libya has declared a policy of not taking any more workers from Thailand.

The mass lay-off action against Thai workers, who are making a killing in Libya, must be attributed to the policy and behavior of Thailand in connection with the Libyan-U.S. conflict because the direction taken by the Thai Government favors the United States against Libya. Police recently arrested a Thai engineer who won a construction contract in Libya, on the charge of helping Libya build nuclear and chemical weapon factories. The engineer testified that he was working on the construction of an underground shelter project. Consequently, Libya believes that Thailand is taking the side of the United States, and as many as 22,000 Thai workers have to bear the brunt of its outrage.

It is the duty of the Thai Government to answer the question as to why the Thai workers have to face such an unfortunate situation. Is it the direct mistake made by the Thai Government, Libya, or the United States? Since Thailand has just enrolled as a member of the Non-aligned Movement, in which Libya is also a member, why can this not add any weight on Thailand's neutrality? The government must clearly explain to the people both the economic and political gains and losses as a consequence of the expulsion of Thai workers from Libya.

The problem between the United States and Libya is that the former has been putting pressure on Thailand in such a way that the latter will walk the path that serves its interests. As a result, Thailand and Thai workers are now suffering the consequences. Will the United States give jobs to the Thai workers? The answer is no because it is also facing a severe unemployment problem. In fact, the United States has been forcing Thailand on this and that, ranging from trade issues to the problem it has with Libya. Thailand never has the courage to ask for anything, even a fair trial of accused murderer Jonathan Doody, from the United States.

What will the Thai Government do with the 22,000 Thai workers after their expulsion from Libya? Does it have any plan to give them any form of assistance or will it simply leave them struggling for themselves? As always, workers are victims of maltreatment and will continue to be so in the future. What happens to the Thai workers in Libya reflects the failure of the Thai Government's diplomacy and its inability to foster goodwill in Libya.

Cabinet Approves Relations With South Africa

BK0311035793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
3 Nov 93 p 2

[Text] The Cabinet has given approval for Thailand to establish diplomatic relations with South Africa and lift all but oil and weapon embargoes against the country, a government spokesman said yesterday. The Foreign Ministry had proposed that Thailand make this move in line with the resolution adopted by the United Nations

on October 8 on the basis of a report filed by the Special Committee Against Apartheid, the spokesman said.

Ministry Issues Algeria Travel Advisory

BK0411023893 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Thai business people are warned to avoid travelling to Algeria because of violence caused by internal conflict in that country. Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sakthip Krairoek says violence in Algeria is worsening, with the opposition group trying to kidnap or kill foreigners. He says seven foreigners of various nationalities were killed, and three French diplomats have been kidnapped. Mr. Sakthip says there are 19 Thai people in Algeria working in a hotel construction, and they are reportedly safe. They have been made aware of the situation there. However, he says, those Thai workers will return to Thailand in January next year. Mr. Sakthip warns that Thai business people should avoid travelling to Algeria at present for safety reason.

Pact Signed With Australia To Combat AIDS

BK0411020993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 4 Nov 93 p A7

[Text] Thailand and Australia agreed yesterday to join forces to combat the killer disease Aids. The two countries signed a memorandum of understanding for cooperation in public health, Public Health Minister Athit Urairat said. The agreement, signed by Athit and Australian Deputy Prime Minister Brian Howe, will also enable Thailand to help its poorer neighbours including Burma, Cambodia and Laos in the field of public health, Athit said.

"Public health cooperation in the form of prevention is very important," Athit said. "Though Thailand still lacks both finance and human resources, we have the potential to provide help to neighbouring countries."

The memorandum covers the battle against the spread of Aids, narcotics control, health education, health care and services in rural areas and medical technology. The cooperation agreement also includes the exchange of health experts, information and data as well as joint research, Thai officials said.

Howe told reporters after the signing ceremony that Thailand stood to gain from Australia's "quite successful" public health programme.

"We've now got a very effective programme in terms of stopping the spread of Aids and that is largely educational," he said.

"It's a matter of educating the community to be aware of the dangers associated with unprotected sex." While the bulk of funds from Australia's US\$67 million annual anti-Aids budget went into education, some of the money was channelled into scientific research, Howe said. He cautioned, however, against overoptimism

about a cure for Aids. He said "exhaustive testing, and much more time, were necessary before a successful treatment could be developed."

Thailand and Australia yesterday also signed a memorandum of understanding on logistics cooperation, Defence Minister Wichit Sukmak said. That would enable arms production joint venture between the two countries, he added.

Public Health Minister Athit Urairat has expressed hope for more government budgets for his ministry's efforts to help produce doctors. He said his ministry could indirectly help train more doctors.

There are several hospitals under the Public Health ministry such as Pokklos Hospital in Chanthaburi and Chon Buri Hospital where interns from Chulalongkorn University usually work. He added that the ministry always played a prominent role in helping training of doctors by allowing them to use the facilities and medical instruments. However, Athit said even if the ministry did not receive any increased budget, it would still be willing to cooperate with the University Affairs ministry which was in charge directly of producing medical personnel. According to Athit, there are 89 hospitals under the Public Health Ministry's control.

Navy To Buy Six U.S. Seahawk Helicopters

BK0311012193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 3 Nov 93 p A4

[Text] The Navy is to buy six Seahawk helicopters from the United States at a cost of Bt [baht] 3.5 billion. A government-to-government contract for the squadron has been signed with the United States. Their use is aimed at improving defence in the event of possible conflicts over territorial waters.

Navy Commander-in-Chief Prachet Siridet said yesterday the aircraft, due for delivery in 1997, would be stationed aboard the helicopter carrier, HMS Chakkri Narudet, at present being built in Spain. The carrier's main functions are anti submarine and anti-aircraft operations.

Adm Prachet said: "Although the potential threat to national security from the sea has lessened, members of the international community have yet to agree on their territorial waters."

"Without a clear-cut boundary in the sea, conflicts can easily flare up. We have to maintain preparedness."

The navy chief said the navy also planned to obtain a fleet of smaller vessels to protect the helicopter carrier which will carry a total of 14 aircraft. Apart from its combat capabilities, the carrier will be used to patrol problem spots bordering other countries' territorial waters, he said.

Prachet said his staff was identifying drawing up a priority list on the navy's long-term plans to maintain its defence capabilities and was still considering obtaining submarines.

"We are carefully looking into the option of buying submarines which are very costly and will strain our already limited budget," he said.

Prachet said the purchase of mine sweepers and training ships for naval officers was high on the priority list. The navy was considering offers and specifications it had received from shipbuilders.

Prachet declined to say which countries he considered a threat to Thailand but the navy was keeping a close watch on the naval build-up of neighbouring nations.

The navy chief said the navy had sent 17 officers, most of them holders of masters degrees, to China for shipbuilding training. Another 10 officers will be sent to China under another training programme.

On completion of training, the officers would form the core of a future shipbuilding industry in Thailand.

Prachet said the navy would welcome government and private sector participation in the establishment of the shipbuilding industry in the country.

"The navy cannot make it alone because of budgetary constraints," he said.

Meanwhile, Deputy Defence Minister Sombat Rotphothong yesterday confirmed that the Cabinet had approved the Air Force's request to buy six Italian-made G-222 light transport aircraft worth Bt3 billion.

The Foreign Ministry and the Commerce Ministry have been instructed to draw up an agreement which links the purchase with the sale to Italy of Thai agricultural products.

Official Says APEC Poses Threat to AFTA

*BK0311015593 Bangkok THE NATION in English
3 Nov 93 pp B1, B2*

[Text] The chief adviser to Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak has warned that creating the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) free trade area would make the Asean Free Trade Area (Afta) obsolete.

Dr Thirana Phongmakaphat was referring to a report from the Eminent Persons Group, a group of 11 independent experts assigned to provide a vision for Apec, which has suggested that Apec make a political commitment to free trade among the members of the group between now and 1996.

The Apec free trade community would make Afta obsolete since the six members of the Association of South-east Asian Nations, the core members of Apec, would

need to accelerate their tariff cuts under Apec faster than through the 15-year Afta programme, he indicated.

"Let say the agreement provides a time frame of only five years—how can Asean adjust itself to meet the free trade requirements within such a short period," he asked.

Thirana's comments came at a time when the Apec forum is taking on a new direction, with the United States and Australia stepping up their lobbying efforts to turn the 15-member consultative framework into a free trade community.

He said it is highly possible that US President Bill Clinton will ask Apec leaders to show their political will to transform the loose, consultative forum into a free trade area at this month's meeting in Seattle.

Apec consists of the six-nation Asean, the United States, Canada, Japan, South Korea, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Australia and New Zealand.

It might be too early for Thailand to plunge headlong into a free trade agreement with the Apec countries, given the greater importance of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, Thirana said.

He stressed that any talks on the future of Apec should take place after the Dec 15 deadline of the Gatt Uruguay Round of world trade liberalization talks lest they undermine the global trade governing body.

Thailand should at this stage cooperate with countries with a similar level of development, Thirana suggested.

Afta is the most appropriate regional forum for Thailand because it provides breathing space for the Asean Six to gradually eliminate tariff barriers on manufactured goods through to the year 2008.

According to the report made by the Eminent Persons Group, which was formed to provide a vision for Apec toward the year 2000, the larger regional grouping should seek additional liberalization beyond what has proved possible at the multilateral level under the Gatt talks with special emphasis on issues which cannot be resolved at the global level.

Thirana, however, is concerned about how the additional liberalization would work in practice because the major economies have already resolved many areas they are interested in, such as trade in services and intellectual property rights protection. He questioned whether the major economies really intend to raise in the Apec forum any issues they failed to resolve in the Gatt talks.

"To be fair, the Apec forum must negotiate the whole range of issues, including agriculture or textiles, if it were to become a trade negotiating body at all. In Gatt, the textile negotiations have become almost obsolete," he said. He said that Thailand's priority is the multilateral trade talks under Gatt, which he believes can provide free and fair trade in the global system.

"If the Apec leaders announce their collective will to implement free trade within Apec, the Gatt would certainly be weakened, for the Apec economies account for 60 per cent of world trade," he said. But supporters of free trade within Apec argue that if France and the European Community block an agreement under the Gatt covering sectors of interest to Thailand, Apec may be the place to start discussing trade in these sectors.

Thirana does not perceive the suggested draft "A Vision for Apec Towards an Asia-Pacific Community" as the best solution to secure a free trade system.

Supporters of the idea have said they are not creating a trade bloc, which would agree to restrict the influx of goods from non-members, only that they wish to have free trade among members.

"The paper fails to suggest how Apec members should create free trade without hurting non-Apec members," he said.

Thirana said the Chuan administration, through the International Economic Policy Committee, is working on Thailand's position on Apec and will come up with a clear stand before the prime minister leads the delegation to Seattle.

Government Organizes Aid Project for Burma

*BK0411014993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
4 Nov 93 p 2*

[Text] The Fishery Department is organising a 25-million-baht saltwater shrimp farm project for Burma as part of economic aid, department sources said yesterday. The plan has been sent to the Agriculture Ministry for approval before the ministry submits the proposal to the Cabinet for an allocation from the central fund.

The project, part of economic cooperation between the two countries, is aimed at instructing Burmese academics on the breeding of saltwater shrimps so they can pass on the information to the people.

Fishery Department officials will be sent to Burma to teach the academics. The project is a gesture of appreciation for Burma's granting of fishing concessions in the past.

Rangoon also recently released a number of Thai fishermen caught fishing illegally in Burmese territorial waters.

Sources said Fishery Department Director-General Plotprasop Suratsawat was hoping the show of sincerity toward Burma would help eliminate problems plaguing the Thai-Burmese fishing agreement.

"If after this the problems remain the same, the director-general will not go to Burma again and we will cease negotiations," said one source. Sources said many Thai

fishermen violate the fishing agreement with Burma and everyone must cooperate rather than set out only to gain benefits.

Launch of Thaicom-1 Rescheduled for 17 Dec

*BK0311022593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
3 Nov 93 p 21*

[Text] Thailand's first commercial satellite, Thaicom 1, will be launched into orbit on December 17, later than the earlier scheduled launch date of December 4. The date has been set by Arianespace at Kourou in French Guiana just north of Brazil.

Guy Maillet, director and resident delegate in Thailand of Aerospatiale said yesterday the earlier preliminary launch date could not be kept because there were too many satellites to be sent into orbit during the period. The company has to meet the needs of all its clients.

December 17 was more or less definite as Chinnawat Communication (SC&C) executive chairman Thaksin Chinnawat had already started sending invitation letters to a selected group of top executives in the public and private sector and journalists to witness the launch, he said.

Dr Thaksin will lead the group to witness the launch and to visit the space centre. The launch may be postponed to the next day if there are weather problems.

Vietnam

Minister on Results of President's Laos Visit

*BK0411074193 Hanoi VNA in English 0721 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 4—"President Le Duc Anh's recent visit to Laos has opened a new prospect, giving impetus to promote the relations between Laos and Vietnam in conformity with the trend for peace, stability and cooperation in the region", said Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam on Thursday.

In an interview in the national daily NHAN DAN on the results of President Le Duc Anh's visit, which concluded yesterday, Mr. Cam said that the talks between President Le Duc Anh and his Lao counterpart Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the Lao people's revolutionary party Khamtai Siphandon and other Lao leaders were taking place in an atmosphere of friendship, mutual understanding and trust.

The two sides, he said, saw eye to eye on all issues brought up for discussion. A joint communique was issued at the end of the visit, affirming their agreement. The two sides also had the same views on the situations in the region and the world as a whole.

Tourism Cooperation Agreement Signed With Laos

*BK0411151993 Hanoi VNA in English 1429 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov.4—Vietnam and Laos have agreed on a cooperation plan in tourism for 1994 and signed a statute on the management of tourists via the Lao Bao-Huoi Kaki border gate.

This was made during a visit to Vietnam from Nov. 2 by a delegation of the Lao National Tourism Administration led by its General Director Phonesouk Khousombat. While here the Lao delegation was received by Vice Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh.

Mr. Do Quang Trung, director of the Vietnam Administration of Tourism, and his Lao counterpart held talks during which they informed each other of the situation of tourist development in their respective countries. They also reviewed the implementation of the tourism cooperation agreement in the past years.

The Lao guests met with representatives of Vietnamese tourist offices and organizations in Hanoi and Ha Tay Province. On Nov. 5, they will leave here for Ho Chi Minh City, the central Vietnam Provinces of Quang Nam-Da Nang, Thua Thien, Hue and Quang Tri.

Vo Van Kiet Receives New Burmese Ambassador

*BK0311143393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in
Vietnamese 2300 GMT 2 Nov 93*

[Text] The prime minister received the ambassador of Burma, Mr. U Aye, who paid the prime minister a visit on the afternoon of 2 November at the Government Office on the occasion of his assumption of office in Vietnam. Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and Ambassador U Aye carefully exchanged notes on the issue of developing bilateral cooperation in the period to come, and came to the opinion that the traditional relationship between the two countries was a good basis for the development of bilateral cooperative relations in different areas at a new pace.

Receives New Malaysian Ambassador

*BK0211150993 Hanoi VNA in English 1501 GMT
1 Nov 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 1—Malaysian Ambassador to Vietnam Cheah Sam Kip today paid a courtesy visit to Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet on the occasion of his assumption of office in Vietnam.

Ambassador Cheah Sam Kip conveyed Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's regards to Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet.

The Malaysian diplomat assured P.M. Kiet that he would do his best to contribute to the promotion of the cooperation of mutual benefit between Vietnam and

Malaysia in the interests of each country for peace, stability and development in Southeast Asia.

P.M. Kiet expressed his satisfaction at the development of the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Malaysia. He spoke highly of Malaysia's goodwill in settlement of overlapping region between the two countries, in job training for the Vietnamese people who illegally left Vietnam before they returned to reintegrate into their community.

Deputy Prime Minister Speaks at UNESCO Forum

*BK0411061193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 3 Nov 93*

[Text] UNESCO international contributions to the restoration of historic relics in the old, imperial Vietnamese capital of Hue has been praised by the Vietnam Government. Addressing the 27th General Assembly of UNESCO in Paris, Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh welcomed the development of Vietnam-UNESCO cooperation and said that Vietnam always considers UNESCO a trusted friend. He said Hue contains some of the most valuable heritage of Vietnam.

Returns From Arab Gulf, France

*BK0311084193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in
Vietnamese 0500 GMT 3 Nov 93*

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh returned to Hanoi yesterday afternoon after paying an official visit to the four Arab Gulf countries of Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and Yemen; attending the 27th UNESCO conference; and touring France. In his interview with a Radio Voice of Vietnam correspondent, Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh said: While in the four Arab Gulf countries, the Vietnamese Government delegation met with the leaders of these countries to discuss those orientations and measures to be taken to step up their bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation.

In Yemen, the two sides signed an agreement on the establishment of an intergovernmental commission for economic, trade, scientific, and technical cooperation and a number of documents on trade, economic, and educational cooperation.

Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh also said: At the 27th UNESCO conference, participating countries highly valued the renovation process of Vietnam and its contributions to UNESCO.

In France, Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh learned about the organization and the work method of a number of organs involved in the operations of the French Government.

Assembly Delegation Visits Finland, Sweden

BK0311132193 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 2 Nov 93

[Summary] Our National Assembly delegation led by Chairman Nong Duc Manh arrived in Finland on 10 October 1993 for an official friendship visit at the invitation of the speaker of the Finnish Parliament. The visit was the first leg of the delegation's trip to Finland, Sweden, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, and the United Kingdom.

Immediately after its arrival in Helsinki, the delegation was accorded a warm and solemn reception by the Finnish Parliament and people. The delegation met and exchanged views with many high-ranking Finnish parliament members. "The speaker of the Finnish Parliament, the prime minister, and many other high-ranking Finnish officials warmly welcomed the official friendship visit to Finland by the Vietnamese National Assembly delegation, led by Chairman Nong Duc Manh. They regarded the visit as a politically important event because it marks a new step of development in the relations between the two national assemblies and peoples in the interest of the two nations and for the sake of peace, stability, and cooperation in the world.

"Chairman Nong Duc Manh and his entourage met with representatives of the various political parties in the Finnish Parliament and attended a parliamentary session. On this occasion, Chairman Nong Duc Manh informed the Finnish politicians and friends of the initial achievements that Vietnam has recorded in the renovation process. He asserted that Vietnam always pursues a foreign policy of peace, friendship, and mutual respect, wants to befriend all countries in the world community, and struggles for peace, independence, and development. On behalf of our National Assembly and people, Chairman Nong Duc Manh conveyed our people's sincere gratitude to the parliament, government, and fraternal people of Finland for the close friendship and wholehearted assistance that they have reserved for the cause of national defense and construction in Vietnam.

"On the morning of 12 October, Prime Minister Esko Aho cordially met with Chairman Nong Duc Manh and his entourage. Prime Minister Esko Aho highly valued our National Assembly delegation's official visit because it helped promote mutual understanding and contributed to consolidating and promoting the friendship and solidarity between the two national assemblies and peoples. The Finnish Government maintained that thanks to the success of the renovation process, Vietnam has become an important counterpart of Finland in Asia. The Finnish businessmen show keen interest in the Vietnamese market. The Republic of Finland will continue to provide Vietnam with necessary aid and promote bilateral cooperation in all fields."

While in Finland, our National Assembly delegation toured a number of industrial and communications

facilities. The delegation was warmly welcomed and briefed on Finland's fine cultural and scientific and technological achievements as well as on its friendly and cooperative ties with Vietnam in a number of economic fields.

Representatives of the Finland-Vietnam Friendship Association and Vietnamese residents in Helsinki also called on Chairman Nong Duc Manh and his entourage. "Chairman Nong Duc Manh highly valued the great efforts and positive activities of the Finland-Vietnam Friendship Association. He also expressed the hope that the association will devise more practical activities to promote the friendship between the two countries. Speaking to our overseas Vietnamese compatriots in Finland on this occasion, the National Assembly chairman reminded them of the need to scrupulously abide by the policies and laws of the host country, help promote the friendly ties between the two nations, and together with the Finnish people, contribute to building Finland into a more and more prosperous and powerful nation.

"On 14 October, the delegation left for Stockholm to start its official friendship visit to the Kingdom of Sweden. Immediately after their arrival in Stockholm, Chairman Nong Duc Manh and his entourage were cordially welcomed by Mrs. Ingegerd Troedsson, speaker of the Swedish Parliament. The reception took place in an atmosphere of friendship and brotherhood. Mrs. Ingegerd Troedsson warmly welcomed the official friendship visit by our National Assembly delegation led by Chairman Nong Duc Manh. This is the first visit to Sweden by a Vietnamese National Assembly chairman. She noted with pleasure that over the past few years, Sweden and Vietnam have promoted cooperation and exchanged relations in many domains. She stressed that the visit would create conditions for the two countries to constantly strengthen and promote bilateral relations.

"Our National Assembly delegation also had many working sessions with the various committees of the Swedish Parliament such as the Foreign Relations Committee, the Budget Committee, the Judiciary Committee, and the Constitutional Committee. At those working sessions, Chairman Nong Duc Manh and his entourage informed their Swedish counterparts of the socioeconomic situation and the initial achievements of the renovation process in Vietnam. They pointed out that it is Vietnam's policy to befriend all nations in the world. They also learned from a number of experiences drawn by their Swedish counterparts and exchanged the work experiences of each National Assembly. The Swedish parliament leaders welcomed the important achievements of Vietnam's renovation process, maintaining that those achievements conform with the trends of development of the times, open bright prospects for Vietnam, and create solid bases for further promoting cooperation between Vietnam and Sweden.

"On behalf of the Vietnamese National Assembly, Chairman Nong Duc Manh conveyed our people's sincere gratitude to the Swedish people, government, and parliament for their friendship, solidarity, and wholehearted and effective assistance for Vietnam to overcome difficulties in the past and accelerate the ongoing national construction cause. He emphatically said that Vietnam always highly values Sweden's important position and role in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, and other parts of the world, and that Vietnam will do all it can to consolidate and further promote the friendship, solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation with Sweden in the interest of the two countries and for the sake of peace, security, and cooperation in the world.

"Next, our National Assembly delegation had a working session with Mr. Alf Svensson, minister of foreign cooperation and development aid. Chairman Nong Duc Manh sincerely thanked the Swedish minister and other Swedish officials and sectors concerned for their positive contributions to the implementation of the various aid and cooperation programs with Vietnam.

"During its stay in the Kingdom of Sweden, our National Assembly delegation toured a number of famous historic, cultural, economic, and technological centers."

"On 19 October, our National Assembly delegation successfully concluded its visit to the Kingdom of Sweden and left for a number of Western European countries."

South Korean Investment Delegation Visits

*BK0311075593 Hanoi VNA in English 0649 GMT
3 Nov 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov 3—An investment delegation of South Korea led by Mr. Nam Sang-Su, vice president of the Korean Foreign Trade Association, has paid a 4-day visit to Vietnam.

The 19-member delegation which included presidents and directors of large and medium-sized companies in Seoul had working sessions with the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Centre of Foreign Trade Development. It also met with Vietnamese businessmen in Ho Chi Minh City. The guests also called at some government offices to inquire into the investment law and possibilities of investment in Vietnam mainly in such domains as garments, electronic products, means of transport and communications, steel, and food processing.

Swedish Parliamentary Delegation Visits

*BK0311144193 Hanoi VNA in English 1318 GMT
3 Nov 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov 3—A delegation of the Swedish parliament members led by Ms Maj Lis Loow, head of the Riksdag Law Commission, has arrived here for a working visit to Vietnam.

The delegation, which consists of female MP's of the Swedish Social Democratic Party (SDP), held talks on Tuesday with a delegation of female deputies of the National Assembly [NA] led by Ms Nguyen Thi Than, head of NA commission of social affairs.

During the talks, the two sides discussed steps to promote the traditional friendship and cooperation between the two legislatures and governments.

The same day, the delegation was received by Ms. Tran Thi Thanh Thanh, cabinet minister in charge of child protection and care.

Province Acts Against Illegal Japan Emigration

*BK0211114393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in
Vietnamese 0500 GMT 1 Nov 93*

[Text] In Quang Ninh Province, illegal departures to Japan increased in recent months. Some people in Cam Pha and Hai Ninh Districts as well as in Hon Gai city, including several repatriated Vietnamese from Hong Kong, have illicitly organized for these illegal departures. Thus far, almost 200 persons have fallen victim to them and reportedly left for Japan.

To stop this practice, the Quang Ninh Public Security Force and mass organizations have launched a campaign to inform people of the tricks of these bad elements. Moreover, the public security force has also coordinated with the Army and the border defense forces to strengthen patrols along roads and coastal areas to stop these illegal departures and strive to suppress smuggling.

The Hon Gai City People's Court, in coordination with the Organ of Control, recently tried two ringleaders who organized various illegal departures from Quang Ninh to Japan.

'Secret Trial' for Dissident Monks in Hue

*BK0411095693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0929 GMT
4 Nov 93*

[By Andrew Sherry]

[Text] Hanoi, Nov 4 (AFP)—Court officials in Hue met behind closed doors this week to decide the fate of at least four dissident Buddhist monks charged with provoking civil unrest in the central Vietnamese city, Vietnamese sources said Thursday.

Buddhist exiles described the session that opened Monday as a "secret trial," and said they were expecting the public trial to have begun by the end of the week.

A Thua Thien-Hue province religious affairs official confirmed that judicial authorities had been meeting to prepare the public trial of some monks, adding that it would open "soon."

Hue authorities detained six Buddhist monks in June and July on charges of instigating civil unrest in connection with a sit-down strike by monks that degenerated

into violence May 24 in the former imperial capital. They include Thich Tri Tuu, abbot of Hue's Linh Mu pagoda, a stronghold of resistance to Hanoi's efforts to integrate the Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam (UBCV) into the state-run Vietnam Buddhist Church.

Facing trial are Tri Tuu, Thich Hai Tang, Thich Hai Thinh—all arrested June 5—and Thich Hai Chanh, who was arrested in July, according to Buddhist exile sources. Two junior monks detained along with Hai Chanh were subsequently freed on bail and may also be put on trial with the four senior monks, the UVBC's Thich Quang Ba said by telephone from Australia, citing sources within Vietnam.

Quang Ba said the UBCV expected the public trial of the four to begin this week, though he charged that their fate had already been decided in the "secret trial" that began Monday.

"It's not a normal court like it other countries, it's a closed session between officials themselves," he said. "The top officials in Hanoi have already decided what to do with them."

An informed source in Hue confirmed that the court had been meeting in secret session since Monday, describing it as part of the trial. Vietnam's constitution requires public trials for criminal charges.

Hanoi refuses to recognize the UBCV, saying it was voluntarily subsumed into the state church in 1981.

The differences between UBCV leaders and the government have flared into open confrontation since the 1992 death of church Patriarch Thich Don Hau, with religious affairs officials accusing Thich Tri Tuu of forcing his will.

UBCV leaders accuse the government of repressing religion, a charge Hanoi denies, pointing to the broad increase in religious activities over the past two years amid the government's reform program.

The monks were arrested only because they broke civil law by causing disorder, Hanoi officials said.

In scenes shown repeatedly on state television, a crowd—including some apparent monks—attacked and overturned a municipal jeep that they believed was taking Thich Tri Tuu to prison on May 24.

The unrest occurred three days after an unidentified man immolated himself at Linh Mu pagoda, evoking comparisons to the 1963 self-immolation of a UBCV monk protesting repression by the South Vietnamese government.

Do Muoi Attends Nguyen Thai Ninh Memorial

BK0311053393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 2 Nov 93

[Text] On 2 November, the memorial service for Comrade Nguyen Thai Ninh, member of the party Central

Committee and former director of the party Ideology and Culture Department, was solemnly held in Hanoi.

Attending the service were many comrades and representatives of different sectors, departments, mass organizations, and party committees of the central, provincial, and city levels. Many people from various literature and arts associations and from mass media agencies also attended the service. The party Central Committee delegation led by Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi laid a wreath at the function. General Vo Nguyen Giap and local leaders sent messages of condolences to the relatives of Comrade Nguyen Thai Ninh.

Comrade Nguyen Duc Binh, member of the party Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee, delivered a eulogy expressing profound appreciation for Comrade Nguyen Thai Ninh's qualities, abilities, and contributions. He stated that Comrade Nguyen Thai Ninh was a dedicated cadre with a high sense of responsibility from the time he was a 17 years old soldier until he was in charge of the party Ideology and Culture Department.

Le Phuoc Tho Attends Women's Union Seminar

BK0311053293 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 2 Nov 93

[Text] In preparation for the 1994 Ministerial Conference on Women's Role in Socioeconomic Development in the Asian and Pacific Region in Jakarta and the 1995 Fourth International Women's Conference in Beijing, the Vietnam Women's Union [VWU] held a joint seminar in Hanoi from 2-3 November with the Swedish International Development Association [SIDA] on the role of women in state management.

Attending the seminar were Comrade Le Phuoc Tho, member of the party Political Bureau and director of the party Organization Department; State Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh; and VWU President Truong My Hoa. Also attending were SIDA Chief (Robert Erickson) and Mrs. Caroline, a representative of the UNDP [United Nations Development Program].

Speeches at the seminar concentrated on developing a contingent of women cadres and the current role of women cadres in state management. The seminar aimed at improving the role of women so they can better contribute to national renovation. After listening the statements of the Vietnamese leaders, Mr. (Erickson) affirmed the attention SIDA pays to Vietnamese women cadres. He also highly valued the role of Vietnamese women in our socioeconomic development.

Key Cadres Discuss Party Draft Political Report

BK0111085393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 1 Nov 93

[Text] A group of 65 key cadres and members of the Standing Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee held a meeting recently to

contribute ideas to the party draft political report for the mid-term national party congress. Most of these cadres contended that the draft political report has been carefully prepared and has valuable content.

Regarding measures to strengthen the political system, the meeting held that the Vietnam Fatherland Front and other mass organizations have made great efforts to fulfill this task. Shortcomings, however, are still prevalent due to difficulties in organizing and motivating the people to participate in various political activities. The meeting noted that youth and mass mobilization work are the key tasks to promote human resources, thus it is necessary to stress the significance of this task in the draft political report.

Ideological Bloc Prepares for Party Conference

BK3110135793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 30 Oct 93

[Text] In Hanoi on 28-29 October, the party committee of the Bloc of Central Organs for Ideological Work held a meeting to contribute ideas to the party Central Committee's draft political report to be presented at the upcoming mid-term national party conference.

Delegates to the meeting frankly and animatedly discussed various issues related to the political report in a scientific and constructive fashion. They appraised general achievements in the socioeconomic, national defense and security, and foreign affairs domains as well as the maintenance of political stability and the creation of prerequisites for national industrialization and modernization for the days ahead. They also reviewed achievements and requirements for the task of party building and the strengthening of the political system.

Many delegates contributed ideas on measures to effectively carry out key tasks and exchanged experiences in implementing the seventh national party congress' resolutions in the past two and a half years. They also discussed efforts to contribute more valuable ideas to the party draft political report.

The conference decided that in the fourth quarter, the Bloc of Central Organs for Ideological Work will strive to strengthen ideological, cultural, and propaganda activities to positively serve the National Party Congress as well as the mid-term national party conference.

Vietnam Cooperatives Alliance Holds Congress

BK3110121493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 30 Oct 93

[Text] After a two-day sitting, the first congress of the Vietnam Cooperatives Council [VCC] concluded at the

Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi on 30 October. Addressing the congress, Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai stressed that the government will create favorable conditions for cooperatives to develop further. At present, the government is perfecting the draft law on cooperatives to submit to the National Assembly for approval in 1994. The government will urge various sectors and echelons to closely coordinate with the VCC to effectively renovate and develop various forms of economic cooperation. The congress decided to rename the VCC as the Vietnam Cooperatives Alliance [VCA], and approved its new statute. The congress elected the VCA Central Committee comprising 51 members with Mr. Hoang Minh Thang as its chairman.

New Youth Committee Meets Media Agencies

BK0311083793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 2 Nov 93

[Text] The government issued on 12 June Decree No. 41 on the formation of the Vietnamese Youth Committee [VYC]. In order to prepare for its first meeting on 2 November, the VYC held a meeting with mass media agencies in Hanoi. At the meeting, Minister and VYC Chairman Ha Quang Du said that the establishment of VYC is necessary to meet the new requirements of national renovation. The VYC is an organ to coordinate activities of different ministries, departments, and mass organizations for the settlement of issues relating to youth. It will help the government in the management of youth works.

Comrade Ha Quang Du also offered a briefing on the VYC program of actions for the period of 1994-1995. First of all, the VYC will present the government with policy planning on university graduate employment, preferential treatment of outstanding students, encouraging graduates to work in mountainous and island areas, support to young businessmen, and an employment service to alleviate poverty.

Cooperation Memorandum To Protect Nature Signed

BK0311150793 Hanoi VNA in English 1440 GMT 3 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 3—A memorandum of understanding on cooperation in the protection of biological diversification and nature between the Vietnamese Government and the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) was signed here this afternoon. Signatories were Prof. Le Quy An, deputy minister of science, technology and environment and Mr. Vitus Fernando, director of the Asian-Pacific programme of the IUCN.

